

## Sunday's knock on the door that led to three days of terror



Back in town: Raisa Gorbachev with her granddaughter Xenia arriving back in Moscow early yesterday

MIKHAIL Gorbachev was sitting at his desk writing on the dangers of a right-wing coup when the conspirators' knock on the door came: not at dawn on Monday, as many had supposed, but at 4.50pm local time on Sunday as the sun started to set over the Black Sea below his two-storey state villa at Foros.

He looked tired as he recounted it yesterday, but not as tired as when he flew back to Moscow with a handful of reporters and officials on board his plane on Wednesday night. By yesterday the suit was again immaculate, the white shirt crisp, the manner confident and dryly sardonic.

Four days of incarceration had clearly not altered his views on socialism. He had faced down intimidation and dismissed a crude attempt to force him into resignation and was in no mood to admit mistakes. Cut off from the world, he had nonetheless kept up with the news — "BBC Russian service was the best" — on a radio ingeniously assembled by his bodyguards.

"How could these people question my health?" he said sarcastically of the coup leaders. "Their own hands were shaking." But his wife Raisa fared less well from the experience. She was said yesterday to be in a state of "profound shock". Some witnesses said that her

*Richard Owen pieces together three astonishing days in a Black Sea villa in which President Gorbachev, his wife Raisa and their family faced the conspirators and feared the worst.*

left arm was partially paralysed and Russian parliament radio reported that she was suffering from a nervous disorder. "Raisa Maximovna and my daughter had a very bad experience," was Mr Gorbachev's curt observation. His wife's health was improving, he said, but she was still suffering from "the episode".

"The one who got through this the best was my seven-year-old granddaughter Zhenia," Mr Gorbachev said with affection. "She didn't understand anything and insisted on going to the beach." The junta's men, it emerged from interviews with his bodyguards, had not taken control inside the villa nor had they engaged his bodyguards in a shootout. Instead they had surrounded the building and cut its communications, leaving Mr Gorbachev able to go swimming in the magnificent pool but not to use the telephone.

The plotters were preceded by Yuri Plekhanov, head of the KGB government protection squad, who arrived unannounced at the villa. Mr Gorbachev summoned his family and

told them he suspected something was wrong. "We all know how it used to be with members of the family in similar cases. Anything can happen. They might have killed me and my whole family." The conspirators had behaved with a "total lack of politeness". He had demanded to know who had sent them. "They said, 'The committee sent me'. I said, 'What committee? It has no authority.' I decided to clarify who had sent them here and picked up one of the telephones I have... it wasn't working. I picked up a second, a third, a fourth... everything was cut off."

The conspirators, led by his trusted deputy Gennady Yanayev, demanded his resignation, saying that the situation in the country was catastrophic. He called them "reckless adventurers". "I said, 'The hell with you... you'll kill the country, just a day before the signing of the Union Treaty.'" When they again demanded his resignation, he retorted, "You will never live that long. The country will reject you, the country will not support any such measures. Do you think they are willing to support a dictator?"

During his 72 hours of isolation, "everything was done to weaken me psychologically". But he had been convinced the plotters "wouldn't last long". His bodyguards feared an attack from the sea but it never came. Mr Gorbachev's security men, dressed in sports clothes and armed with automatic weapons and walkie-talkies, continued to patrol his dacha and the nearby paths lined with cypress trees. They had remained loyal throughout, "taking the dacha under their control". He had been able to move freely within the walls of the residence.

When the ordeal ended and officials from Boris Yeltsin's Russian Federation came to free him, they were greeted with a broad smile and the phrase "Welcome, everyone". There was no sign of "ill health", the lame excuse the coup leaders had given for trying to force him out of office. The coup had been "madness", Mr Gorbachev said. Dressed in shirt-sleeves and open collar, Mr Gorbachev received his liberators, the Russian vice-president Alexander Rutskoy and the prime minister Ivan Silayev, for an hour in one of the marble-lined living rooms. A small group of Russian MPs, three journalists and a senior French diplomat was then ushered in.

Mr Gorbachev said his guards had

been under orders "to open fire on anyone who attempted to penetrate here... The sea was full of warships and the surrounding area was full of troops."

It also emerged that when Mr Rutskoy and Mr Silayev decided to fly to the Crimea, they had invited European Community diplomats to accompany them. But the road to Vnukovo airport was blocked by tanks withdrawing from the capital. Only one of the chosen diplomats, Michel Yves Peissik, a political officer at the French embassy, was able to make the flight.

Mr Gorbachev referred several times to attempts by the coup leaders "to break" him and to influence his family. He said: "The whole world should know about this. What exactly was being plotted and what they had expected to do to me and what they were trying to get from me and what they did not get from me. They were not successful."

"We cannot be ambiguous about this. This group wanted to push these people onto a path which would bring our entire society to a catastrophe. This didn't take place, and this is an

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Gorbachev's own story in full, page 2

## Gorbachev and Yeltsin move to assert control

FROM MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

MIKHAIL Gorbachev emerged yesterday after three days under house arrest to reclaim the presidency of the Soviet Union, to denounce Monday's coup and to declare that he would never give in to blackmail.

He said at a press conference in Moscow that the conspirators had included some of his closest colleagues. These included not only the eight-man junta who fled the capital on Wednesday night, but also the Kremlin chief of staff and the head of his KGB guard.

President Gorbachev's revelations came at the end of a fourth dramatic day during which both the Soviet leader and Boris Yeltsin, the president of the Russian Federation, moved swiftly to consolidate their political positions and the people of Moscow turned out in their thousands to celebrate their victory over

### AFTER THE COUP

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central committee, which held its regular Thursday meeting, passed a resolution noting that several members of the committee had taken part in the coup.

The resolution said that their action "threatened the development of democratic processes and inflicted vast damage on the country and the party". The secretariat called for a full party investigation into the conspiracy and a review of the party membership of those found guilty. It also called for the party to take a greater role in the "democratic transformations" in the country.

While Mr Gorbachev spent yesterday morning quietly with his advisers in the Kremlin, the centre of Moscow was filled with people celebrating his return and hailing their republic's president. Thousands of jubilant supporters streamed into Red Square chanting "Yeltsin, Yeltsin" and "Down with the Communist party". Mr Yeltsin, dressed in a grey suit and red tie, was beaming as he basked in the adulation of the crowd. "We have won," he told them. "The coup has been defeated. Its leaders are under arrest. This must never happen again in our country. We must consider the experiences of the last three days carefully," he said.

Mr Yeltsin promised that all those who had collaborated with the eight-man junta would be prosecuted. As he spoke, the Russian tricolour flag, which the Russian parliament had earlier voted to replace the red standard adopted after the 1917 revolution, fluttered above the building.

Eduard Shevardnadze, the former foreign minister who resigned in December with a warning that the country was nearing dictatorship, also drew loud cheers from the



For Russia with love: civilian and military supporters of Boris Yeltsin exulting at their leader's speech outside the Russian parliament yesterday

huge crowd. He said that those who had been killed during the protests outside the building should be treated as heroes and be buried in the Kremlin wall. "If there is no space, then there are people there we can dig out," he said in an appeal certain to horrify communist hardliners.

Several hundred people also gathered in angry rallies outside the headquarters of the Communist party and 5,000 demonstrators protested in front of the headquarters of the KGB. The crowds tried to tear down a statue to Feliks Dzerzhinsky, the founder of Cheka, the forerunner of the secret police organisation.

In Brussels, European Community ministers voted yesterday to restore \$1 billion (£595 million) of aid to the Soviet Union, which was frozen after the coup attempt, and considered a special summit with Mr Gorbachev. A statement issued by the 12 ministers said that the EC



states "have learned about the failure of the coup in the Soviet Union with a deep feeling of relief and satisfaction. They rejoice at President Gorbachev's reinstatement."

Hans van den Broek, the Dutch foreign minister who holds the presidency of the EC, said that community leaders had decided to meet Mr Gorbachev, but preparations for any such meeting would take a long time. "We must be careful and watchful, democratic forces inside and outside the Soviet Union have still not necessarily won the day," he told the European parliament meeting.

John Major said in London yesterday that the failure of the coup attempt meant that the process of reform in the Soviet Union could be advanced. "Many of the impediments to reform are the people who launched this coup," he said.

"The coup has failed. They are no longer there. This may mean a different passage for reform, and if that is the case the circumstances have changed." On Wednesday the prime minister, who is currently chairman of the group of seven industrialised nations, said that the West should now consider giving

Mr Gorbachev more aid to ease the progress of his reform programme.

Mr Major said that he had spoken to Mr Gorbachev who sounded "very fit, very well and very buoyant". "He is considering some of the changes he will need to make in his government and he did tell me he expects to meet leaders of the republics tomorrow to discuss the Union Treaty," Mr Major said.

Vytautas Landsbergis, the president of Lithuania, urged the West yesterday to use the opportunity offered by the collapse of the Soviet coup to recognise the Baltic republics as independent states. Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia wanted justice and freedom, he said. "The question of Baltic independence cannot be left to last or put down for tomorrow. Another way is moral and right today. Don't wait for more victims, decide now."

Senior officials in Germany and the United States said yesterday that they would recognise the Baltic republics if the three regions reached agreement with Moscow on secession. Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the German foreign minister, said "The time when the Baltic peoples' wish for independence is achieved has come closer after the events of recent days. We will naturally not hesitate to recognise the decision that results from negotiations that will now certainly take place."

Lawrence Eagleburger, the American deputy secretary of state, said that Washington would raise the issue of the Baltic states with Mr Gorbachev.

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### TODAY IN THE TIMES

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Galina Starovoitova was the voice of Boris Yeltsin in Britain for 60 dramatic hours. She talks to Kate Muir about being at history's right hand Page 12

#### RADIO DAYS

Has Patricia Ewing, head of Radio 5, met the goals she set when the network was launched a year ago? Melinda Wittstock reports Page 12

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# 'I will not yield to any blackmail or pressure'

THE following is an unofficial partial text of President Gorbachev's account, at a news conference on Thursday, of this week's failed coup while he was on holiday in the Crimea. Mr Gorbachev was speaking through an interpreter.

Today's press conference is taking place after the events which I wish we will never repeat again. I hope there will never be a press conference like this again.

We have experienced ... one of the most difficult trials in the entire history of the reforms of our society.

We have encountered something very real, without exaggeration, an anti-constitutional coup that was organised by counter-revolutionary forces which appeared to be in the leadership, in the very centre of the leadership, people which I advanced, believed in and trusted, who appeared to be not only the participants but the organisers of this coup, against the constitution, against perestroika and against democracy.

On August 18, at 4.50pm, I was told by the chief of the guard ... that there are people to see me. I said that I was not waiting for anyone and that I'm not informed of any visit. Why are they here? The chief of the guard told me he knew nothing either.

Tikhonov, the head of the KGB administration, was with them. Otherwise, my guards would not have let them through. Those are the laws. They are strict laws, but they are necessary ones.

I decided to clarify who had sent them and picked up one of the telephones which I have to connect me with various areas of the Soviet government. And I picked up the telephone and it wasn't working.

I picked up a second, a third. I picked up a fourth telephone. None of them [worked] they were all cut off. I picked up the internal phone. Everything was cut off. I realised that this mission was not the sort of mission with which we ordinarily have to do.

Under these circumstances, I went to a different place. I ... called together my family — my wife, my daughter and my son-in-law — and told them what was happening. I didn't need any further supplementary data. I thought it was a very serious situation and I thought that they were going to try to blackmail or force me or compel me to try to do something. Anything was possible.

I said to Raisa [his wife] and Irina [his daughter] that if the worst happens, if it's a question of our political course, I will stand up for my position and will not yield to any blackmail or any pressure and will not take any other decision at all. — I thought it was necessary to say this.

You can understand why, because anything can happen, especially for the members of my family. Because the whole family stated that this has to be my decision and that they would go along with me, and that was the end of our conversation.

I then went to call them in and they had already come of their own accord.



March of celebration: thousands of Yeltsin supporters marching through Red Square in Moscow yesterday to celebrate the failure of the coup

This was an unheard of lack of politeness. An ultimatum was submitted to the president and, over my authority, to the vice-president.

Before I answer questions ... I said "I want to ask you, who sent you? They said the committee sent us ... the committee appointed in connection with the emergency. I said, 'Who appointed such a committee? I didn't appoint such a committee. The Supreme Soviet didn't appoint such a committee.'"

And it turned out that these people had already got together and that a decree of the president was necessary. And they said, "Either you will issue such a decree or you can hand over your authority to the vice-president", because the question was put in that way.

I told them that I knew the situation in the country better than anyone, politically, economically, and the life of

people and all the difficulties they were facing, and that we had come to the phase where we need to do everything as fast and decisive as we can to live better.

I told them that I was always an opponent of such methods and moral reasons, but because in the history of our country they have always led to ... hundreds, thousands and millions of deaths. And we need to get away from that, and to refuse it for ever. If we do differently, we are not behaving like ourselves, and everything that we started we'll have to bury for ever. We should agree that we are going in a bloody circle.

Then I told them: "You and those who sent you are adventurists, you will kill yourselves, but the hell with you, it's your problem, do what you want to do."

But you will also kill the country, everything that we

are doing, and now that we are close to the signing of the Union Treaty, after working for an entire month on important decisions dealing with foodstuffs, fuel, the solving of financial problems, so that we can stabilise as quickly as possible the political and economic situation and more quickly advance the market process. Let people have more opportunities to work in all spheres of life. Only those who want to commit suicide can now suggest building a totalitarian regime in the country.

A demand was made that I should resign. I said: "You will never live that long" ... and I said, "Convey that to those who sent you. I have nothing more to say to you."

I said ... "You're going to announce some emergency situation tomorrow. What are you going to do after that? Look ahead, look ahead, two or three or four steps ahead. I

said the country will reject you. The country will not support any such measures. ... You think they are willing to support any dictator."

My argument was that this would lead to destruction of society. This would be a dead end. This scenario would put society at an end and would kill everything that we have been striving for.

This was a conversation of deaf mutes. The cars were already started. I could see they were ready ... "You can tell them that I categorically refuse to have any dealings with you" ... That's what I said to them, and that was the end of the conversation.

My 32-man guard remained with me to the end. They decided to stay and ... they divided up the defence functions. The family members were spread around, and all protected, and they decided to stay there to the end.

I was able to order food. I was sure the whole time ... that this was a totally irresponsible and blind political course, and that they would not prevail, that they wouldn't last very long. That's what happened in fact. Seventy-two hours of total isolation — everything was done, I think, to weaken me psychologically. It was hard. It's hard to say it now, but that's how it was.

Every day, morning and night, I demanded ... that my communications be restored and that an aircraft be brought immediately so that I could return to Moscow.

After their press conference, I added the demand that my health, the state of my health, be confirmed. And how could these people talk about bad health? Their own hands are shaking the whole time.

Everything was turned off, but we found some old receivers in the service quarters and were able to set up antennas — the lads were able to figure out how to do that. We were able to catch some broadcasts and find out what was happening. We got BBC, best of all ... Radio Liberty, then Voice of America.

The republics themselves took a negative position and here I must say they adopted a position of principle, and in particular, our Russian parliament, our Russian deputies, Russian government. And the leading role was played by the president of Russia, Boris Nikolievich Yeltsin.

I have to say that we have to pay our due to the position of

principle adopted by the Muscovites and the Leningrad population and many others.

As well, the attempt to create the appearance that the country was supporting this committee failed, of course. But the country did, on the whole, reject this emergency committee and this is the best argument we have, the best plebiscite which we have of the real position of the people.

When it became clear that

the house, put them under guard and tell them I insist that I will not talk about anything until we're doing this at a governmental level."

So they'll have a lot of time to think about it. They won't be going anywhere for a while.

My guard felt they might attack us from the city, but then it turned out that the navy would not participate in this ... And not only the navy, but nobody would help them.

All of this has been done. I found the commander of the Kremlin guard and asked him who the regiment is reporting to. They called the commander of the regiment, and I told him not to be subordinated to anybody other than the commander of the Kremlin. So I started to call all around all the major points in order to cover all the bases.

Because this was all a very dangerous situation, I decided — I could have been attacked on the road — not to leave until I was sure that it was possible. I was told that should leave with the delegation from the Russian Federation. I said I would meet them. I called Moiseyev in Simferopol (in the Crimea). They sent an aircraft from Simferopol. They called in an air transport plane and things started to move.

The delegation came. We all sat down. We found out that we understood each other well. I think that what we had been through gave us all not only experience, but also a greater measure of understanding.

We understood now what it means to be united and what it means to be disunited when you are a democracy. And we had in the past gone so far as practically to call one another enemies. And we began to think how we're going to pick up the pieces.

I did not meet or talk to any plotters and I did not see them and I don't want to see them. We divided them among aircraft and after the aircraft arrived they were all arrested, and have been placed in isolation.

I gave a command to the Kremlin not to admit anybody who ... co-operated with them.

You know that it appeared as though they might have done something to me, they might have killed me and my whole family ... So ... I began to see how primitive and crude and crafty these individuals were.

We must not lose time. We have a programme. We have to move forward and solve our problems. That's the main thing.

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Before the return: in his first public appearance since the coup on Monday, President Gorbachev speaks to journalists at his villa at Foros in the Crimea before flying back to Moscow



Victory salute: a triumphant Boris Yeltsin claps hands with a member of a tank crew on the balcony of the Russian parliament in Moscow as cheering crowds gathered below

## MOISEYEV'S MESSAGE

I THOUGHT that they were going to try to blackmail or force me or compel me to try to do something. Anything was possible.

I SAID that if the worst happens ... I will stand up for my position and will not yield to any blackmail or any pressure

THIS was an unheard of lack of politeness

A DEMAND was made that I should resign. I said you will never live that long

THIS scenario would put society at an end and would kill everything that we have been striving for

YOU can tell them that I categorically refuse to have any dealings with you ... That's what I said to them, and that was the end of the conversation

HOW could these people talk about bad health? Their own hands were shaking the whole time

EVERYTHING was done, I think, to weaken me psychologically. It was hard

THE country did, on the whole, reject this emergency committee and this is the best argument we have, the best plebiscite, of the real position of the people

THEY'LL have a lot of time to think about it. They won't be going anywhere for a while

WE understood now what it means to be united and what it means to be disunited when you are a democracy

Russia had adopted an implacable position and the people of Russia and the other republics, that the army was not on their side, they began in a panic to seek a way out.

Then I began to work. I gave directions to [armed] forces chief of staff, General Mikhail Moiseyev to take on himself the leadership, the ministry of defence ... to return all the troops to their barracks immediately. And I ordered that [former defence minister Dmitry] Yazov be removed from his position and arrested.



Shoulder-high: a smiling Muscovite child sits astride his father's shoulders in Manezhe Square



Powerful symbol: thousands of Soviet people join to carry the old Russian tricolour towards Red Square

مركز / من الأطل

## THE TRIUMPH

# The Russian tricolour flies again for its heroes

From BRUCE CLARK IN MOSCOW

MOST of us had expected it to happen eventually, probably through some messy political compromise between Communists and reformers.

None of us imagined it could happen so soon or so triumphantly: the raising — to rapturous clapping from hundreds of thousands of people — of the red, white and blue flag of pre-revolutionary Russia over the battered white building that is now vying with the Kremlin as Moscow's real seat of political power.

The hauling down over the Russian parliament of the old communist banner and its replacement by the tricolour was the culmination of a vast, triumphant rally at which the new heroes of Russian democracy — Boris Yeltsin, Eduard Shevardnadze, and the mayor of Moscow, Gavril Popov — soared to new heights of moral authority.

Previous attempts to reintroduce the pre-1917 flag have been firmly voted down by the Communists; but suddenly the political climate has utterly changed, and things which seemed to be outrageous sacrilege a week ago seem obvious now.

The rally was an outpouring of joy, gratitude and relief by people who had seen the scotching — more quickly than most had dared to hope — of a monster that had threatened in different ways to blacken each of their lives.

The monster's ghastly reappearance had suddenly made people count blessings — freedom to read books and decent newspapers, freedom to travel, freedom to pursue happiness in a dozen ways never conceived by an intrusive state — that many had ceased consciously to notice.

As the new flag was being pulled up, Father Gleb Yakunin, the steady-eyed, glistening priest whose years in the labour camp give him a good claim to be the spiritual father of Russian radicalism, invited the demonstrators to march to Red Square.

With almost perfect discipline and good manners, well-practised in the pro-democracy demonstrations that have taken place in much less happy circumstances, they started walking to the Kremlin; but because the weather was so good — clear blue skies and a pleasant, cooling breeze

— and the mood was so joyful, it was indeed more of a stroll than a march.

They poured into the august square, past Lenin's tomb and the Kremlin walls, occupying a space that is still considered too sacred for any demonstrations but the semi-official rallies of May Day and Revolution Day. A rather embarrassed young man in a neat suit and tie had tried through a megaphone to guide them in an orderly walk round the Kremlin and lead them in chants of "Yeltsin" and "Russia". It was at this point that events became almost surreal; one group of demonstrators was standing outside the steel grey building that houses the Central Committee headquarters chanting "Down with the Communists" with joyful impunity and emitting piercing wolf whistles.

If all this sounds like ill-bred hooliganism, it was nothing of the kind — in the circumstances, and by the standards of Russian public manners, the crowd's behaviour was a study in restraint. But one group tied ropes and chains around the statue of Feliks Dzerzhinsky, the Pole who is notorious as the father of the Soviet secret police, and tried to tear it down.



Toppling idols: a Muscovite puts a rope round a statue of Feliks Dzerzhinsky, father of the secret police, to pull it down

## POWER BROKERS

## Call for opportunists to be punished

From BRUCE CLARK IN MOSCOW

ONLY a week ago, the struggle of Boris Yeltsin and his Russian government to wrest effective power from the old communist establishment still looked, in certain lights, like tilting at windmills.

Now conservative bureaucrats, military officers, spies and party hacks from Leningrad to Vladivostok must be quivering with fear as the cry goes up to punish all those who saw the coup as an opportunity rather than a tragedy.

Not just individuals but entire institutions, indeed almost every organ of central — as opposed to republic — power has been discredited as a result of their complicity in the putsch: the cabinet, the presidium of the Soviet parliament and the prosecutor

general. The prime minister and the ministers of defence and internal affairs were all conspirators themselves — and among their cabinet colleagues, only three — deputy premier Vladimir Shcherbakov and the technocrat ministers of culture and the environment — are known to have raised their voices against the coup, and then only in private.

Instinctively, everyone who lived through the terrifying first three days of this week is asking: who were the regional power brokers who rushed to declare their loyalty to the Junta? Who precisely were the army officers who sent tanks against the Russian parliament? Who were the senior diplomats who tried to assure foreign governments with sil-

ver-tongued assurances? And who were the journalists who asked sympathetic and probably planted questions at the conspirators' lamentable press conference on Monday afternoon?

Boris Yeltsin singled out Anatoli Lukyanov, the chairman of the Soviet parliament, as one of the architects of the putsch. Mr Lukyanov who has been acquainted with Mr Gorbachev since they attended law school, is known to have waged a bitter behind-the-scenes struggle to prevent too much power being devolved on the republics by the forthcoming Union Treaty, remaking the country as a looser federation.

Chief conspirator Gennadi Yanayev was clearly counting on Mr Lukyanov to browbeat

the soviet parliament into rubber-stamping the coup at its session next Monday; and in the early hours of the coup, few liberals doubted that the parliamentary chairman would be successful in bending the notoriously conservative assembly to his will.

Mr Lukyanov incensed senior officials of the Yeltsin government with what they considered his devious efforts to broker some kind of deal while the conspiracy was still unfolding.

At a meeting yesterday of Moscow's radical city council, deputies voted massively in favour of the prosecution of Yuri Prokofyev, the leader of the 800,000 communists in the Soviet capital, for complicity in the coup.

While it would be premature to say that the battle for effective power has been won throughout Russia, the task of the Yeltsin administration in consolidating its authority now looks infinitely easier.

## MARKET REFORM

## Battle tilts in favour of radicals

From ROGER BOYES IN WARSAW

RARELY can a feud between two economists have been resolved with such force. The thwarted Moscow coup has scotched the plans of Valentin Pavlov, the sacked prime minister, for controlled economic reform and thrown the advantage to his former rival the 39-year-old Grigory Yavlinsky. It has also put the Soviet Union firmly on the road to the market.

Two months before the coup attempt there was a seemingly academic skirmish: the battle for President Gorbachev's ear. As Mr Gorbachev sought a plan to present to the Group of Seven summit in London he had two drafts in front of him.

Both the paper written by Mr Pavlov and the proposals of Mr Yavlinsky had common elements. Both favoured liberalising prices, privatisation, rouble convertibility, and more foreign investment.

The similarities encouraged Mr Gorbachev to believe that they could be merged into a coherent whole. That was a fundamental misunderstanding not only of the economics but also of the political interests involved. The plans were in fact as different as their architects. Mr Pavlov, a shrewd portly bureaucrat, is a man who rose through manipulating the command economy. He knew its shortcomings but believed too that he knew the flaws of Western capitalism.

His line was that the Soviet Union should indeed join the world economy — but at its own pace, without depending on foreign aid. This would have been the economic programme of the Kremlin plotters had they succeeded.

Dr Yavlinsky, a former Russian prime minister, owes much to Stanislaw Shatalin who came up with a 500-day programme to convert the Soviet economy to the market.

Like Mr Pavlov, the Yavlinsky team recognised that moving to the market was painful but proposed that the West could bridge the transition hardship with food aid and balance of payments assistance.

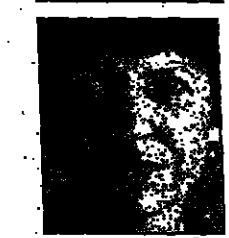
THE TIMES  
SATURDAY

HOLIDAY FARE



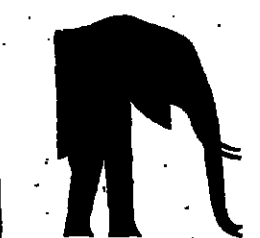
The bank holiday weekend is the last long break before the schools go back and the evenings draw in. Tomorrow *The Times* identifies the best places to go, with or without children, and the best ways to spend time at home

AUGUST GLORY



Joan Bakewell knows the finest place on Earth to spend August: Britain. There are other places for other times, but in August Britain is best, rain or shine

CROSSED WORDS



No bank holiday is quite the same without the *The Times* Jumbo Crossword, a mammoth (but not daunting) test of vocabulary designed for every member of the family

PLUS...



Does every child need a Dan Dickie? John Sessions (above), had one, which may explain a lot

## THE PLOTTERS

## Eight men who kicked against reform



Gennadi Yanayev: the man who on Monday declared himself president is said to be in his Moscow office awaiting arrest. A life-long Communist party apparatchik, and coup front man, Yanayev, aged 54, was elected vice-president by the Congress of People's Deputies last December in a compromise forced on Mr Gorbachev by hardliners. He headed the official trade union movement and a conservative on economic reform.



Vladimir Kryuchkov: the former 67-year-old KGB chief is being held in the Russian interior ministry jail. He was the one who made the least effort at showing loyalty to Mr Gorbachev and repeatedly opposed his views on East-West relations. In a dramatic television appearance last December he warned about a crackdown on radicals and said that the future of the Soviet Union as a country was in doubt.



Dmitri Yazov: under arrest in a Russian interior ministry jail. Former defence minister and one of the first conspirators to resign. He is replaced by armed forces chief of staff, General Mikhail Moysyev. Yazov, aged 67, a senior communist, was previously viewed as loyal to Gorbachev, although thought to be unhappy at the haste with which Soviet troops were being withdrawn from Eastern Europe.



Valentin Pavlov: under arrest in a Moscow hospital where he was treated for hypertension. He has been dismissed as Soviet prime minister. Thought to have been dropped by the inner circle of plotters for quavering and not being harsh enough in early stages of coup. Before becoming prime minister he was a public finance bureaucrat, though not a very successful one, having failed to cope with soaring budget deficit.



Aleksandr Tizyakov: under arrest in an interior ministry jail. The final signatory and president of the association of state enterprises and industrial, construction, transport and communications facilities. Little known about this shadowy figure who is thought to have been goaded into the plot out of a sense of personal bitterness at the shape of his career. He is known to dislike speaking in public. Said to have drink problem.



Oleg Bakatin: the Soviet Communist party secretary is being held in Moscow. He had been in charge of defence industry and was considered the most shadowy of the coup leaders. In the last few years he had seen his influence over the military-industrial complex declining sharply as the Communist party was being edged out of power and therefore can be assumed to have been bitter about his loss of power.



Boris Pugo: shot himself before police came to arrest him. He was seen by many as the most shadowy and Machievellian figure in the Soviet leadership, following his appointment last December as interior minister to replace the liberal Oleg Bakatin. Aged 53, a former chief of the Latvian KGB, he is seen as the master-force behind the crackdown in his native border region last January.



Vasil Staredubeev: also reflecting on his part in the coup as a house guest in the cells of the interior ministry. Staredubeev was relatively unknown outside Russia. He was chairman of the Soviet farmers' union and vociferously promoted his conservative views on how farming should be organised. He was seen as a supporter of the old collective system and opposed moves to give more independence to smallholders.

'We were able to catch some broadcasts and find out what was happening. We got BBC best of all. BBC best of all ...'

Mikhail Gorbachev  
back from captivity

Moscow  
August 1991

When you really need to know what's going on ...

**BBC WORLD SERVICE**

Bush House London WC2B 4PH



# Democracy can now rise from grave of communist man

For 70 years, Soviet propagandists claimed that their society was creating a new type of humanity: "Soviet man" would not be a Russian or Georgian, but a thoroughly communist person. If Soviet man ever existed, the species must be close to extinction after the sinister farce played out in Moscow at the beginning of the week.

The miserable end of the Moscow Eight's headline clowning was the final curtain for Stalin's vision of the old multinational tsarist empire transformed into a monolithic unit. The plotters' pathetic Soviet rhetoric was a sharp contrast to the assertion of national identity by Russians and others in resistance to the coup.

As in the Eastern European revolutions of 1989, it was the national flag which became the symbol of resistance to communism. Not only was the hammer-and-sickle cut out of the Red Flag, but the red-white-and-blue flag of the briefly liberal Russia that Lenin snuffed out in 1917 was waved as the real symbol of popular opposition.

The embodiment of resistance was

Mark Almond of Oriel College, Oxford, analyses the legacy of Russian history and character that will bedevil Gorbachev and Yeltsin in their attempts to create a new nation from the shambles of the past

Boris Yeltsin. Until now, many of Mr Gorbachev's admirers in the West had criticised Mr Yeltsin as a Russian nationalist and demagogue, whose campaign to reassert Russia's identity and rights within the Soviet Union was a threat to Mr Gorbachev. Now, as Mr Yeltsin's popularity and steadfastness appear to have defeated the *putsch*, Western politicians who snubbed him six months ago are showering him with compliments.

Mikhail Gorbachev himself used his first opportunity to speak to the press after his release to praise "that great Russian man, Boris Nikolaevich Yeltsin". Suddenly, Russian nationalism is in favour. It is difficult to see how Mr Gorbachev can now resist Mr Yeltsin's demands that what is left of Soviet

power concede effective sovereignty to the republics, most of all to Russia herself. How will this colossal republic with its huge population of 176 million, and still greater problems cope with the future? The headline threat to Mr Yeltsin and republican rights has collapsed, but the question remains whether Russia and her people can transform the wreckage of Soviet society into a viable democracy and economy.

The states of Eastern and Central Europe had a shorter and less terrible experience of Communism than its birthplace. Their national identities survived better and offered something for people to identify with in the dawn of the new order after 1989. They also wanted to "return to Europe", a phrase

heard from Warsaw to Sofia. The crowds in Moscow may chant "Ros-siya!" in triumph, but what they mean is less clear.

Unlike Czechoslovakia, for instance, Russia has little in her past to act as a model for a democratic future. Russia's links with Western Europe were always shallow. Her religion is different and she was antagonistic to Rome long before Protestantism appeared in the West. Her system of government and society was always alien to the West. From time to time, her governments felt obliged to borrow from the West's stock of technical ideas to protect Russia's power and to protect her from the Western Europeans' military power, but they shunned the constitutional and political ideas of the West.

All the greatest figures of the Russia's nineteenth-century cultural flowering, from Dostoevsky to Tolstoy, rejected Western democracy and capitalism as a model. The anti-tsarist revolutionaries all hoped that the collapse of the monarchy would enable them to transform Russia into something entirely

new, not a copy of the West. Even an anti-Soviet dissident like Alexander Solzhenitsyn has not liberated himself from that peculiar Russian belief that his fellow countrymen have a special moral role in the world, which makes the complacent enjoyment of political liberty and social prosperity inadequate to their aspirations. The effect of the Soviet system's deliberate ravaging of the Russian heritage, cultural and environmental, has been to promote a cult of a better past, especially among intellectuals.

At his inauguration as popularly elected President of the Russian Federation two months ago, Mr Yeltsin explicitly linked his political success to the revival of the new Patriarch of the Orthodox Church. The enormous popularity which Mr Yeltsin enjoys among Russians reflects his role since 1987 as the man who had rejected the Party and suffered for it. He became after his fall the representative of the scores of millions of Russian "outs" against "them", the beneficiaries of the revolution which seventy years still

brought only misery and hardship. The cult of Yeltsin is, however, a challenge to him and to Russian democracy.

Throughout Eastern Europe, the presence of an outstanding personality to represent his nation against the grey communists was a great boon. Without Havel or Walesa, many people would have lacked the courage to protest, but the dependence of post-Communist societies on individuals to unite them and guide them holds obvious dangers for political pluralism, even with the best will in the world. The desire of many Russians to find a "democratic Tsar" to lead them back to tranquillity is understandable but undesirable.

Boris Yeltsin may yet discover, like Mr Gorbachev, that reform is easier to start than complete. The Soviet system may be on its last legs, but its legacy will probably be a very corrosive one. The Russian past offers little guidance about how to deal with the economic and social nightmares that Mr Yeltsin seems about to inherit and nobody else's history has any more wisdom to give.

## THE PURGE

### Gorbachev starts to get rid of hardliners

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

PRESIDENT Gorbachev made his first moves yesterday in the post-coup purge which is expected to clear many hardliners from the defence ministry, the KGB and interior ministry hierarchies. New acting heads of these key departments were appointed.

The first surprise move by Mr Gorbachev was to appoint General Mikhail Moiseyev, chief of the general staff, as acting defence minister to replace the disgraced Marshal Dmitri Yazov. Did this appointment, Western defence experts were asking, clear General Moiseyev of any involvement?

Although Marshal Yazov must have spoken to General Moiseyev about the need for a state of emergency and may have indicated his personal belief that Mr Gorbachev should go, the sacked defence minister never received, and perhaps never sought, approval for using force against the people.

General Moiseyev has written numerous articles expressing his opposition to the army being used for internal operations, an opinion that conflicted with the view of Marshal Yazov. This stand may have reassured Mr Gorbachev that General Moiseyev was a man to be trusted. It is known now that on Tuesday night, senior commanders from the general staff, including General Moiseyev, met at the defence ministry. They agreed that in no circumstances would they order soldiers to fire on people demonstrating against the coup.

Their decision was passed on to Marshal Yazov, who told his co-conspirators that he could not guarantee the support of the army and that he would have to resign from the emergency committee. That was the beginning of the end of the coup.

As acting defence minister, General Moiseyev's primary role will be to raise the morale and status of the armed forces.

He will also be expected to promote younger officers to key positions in the military districts.

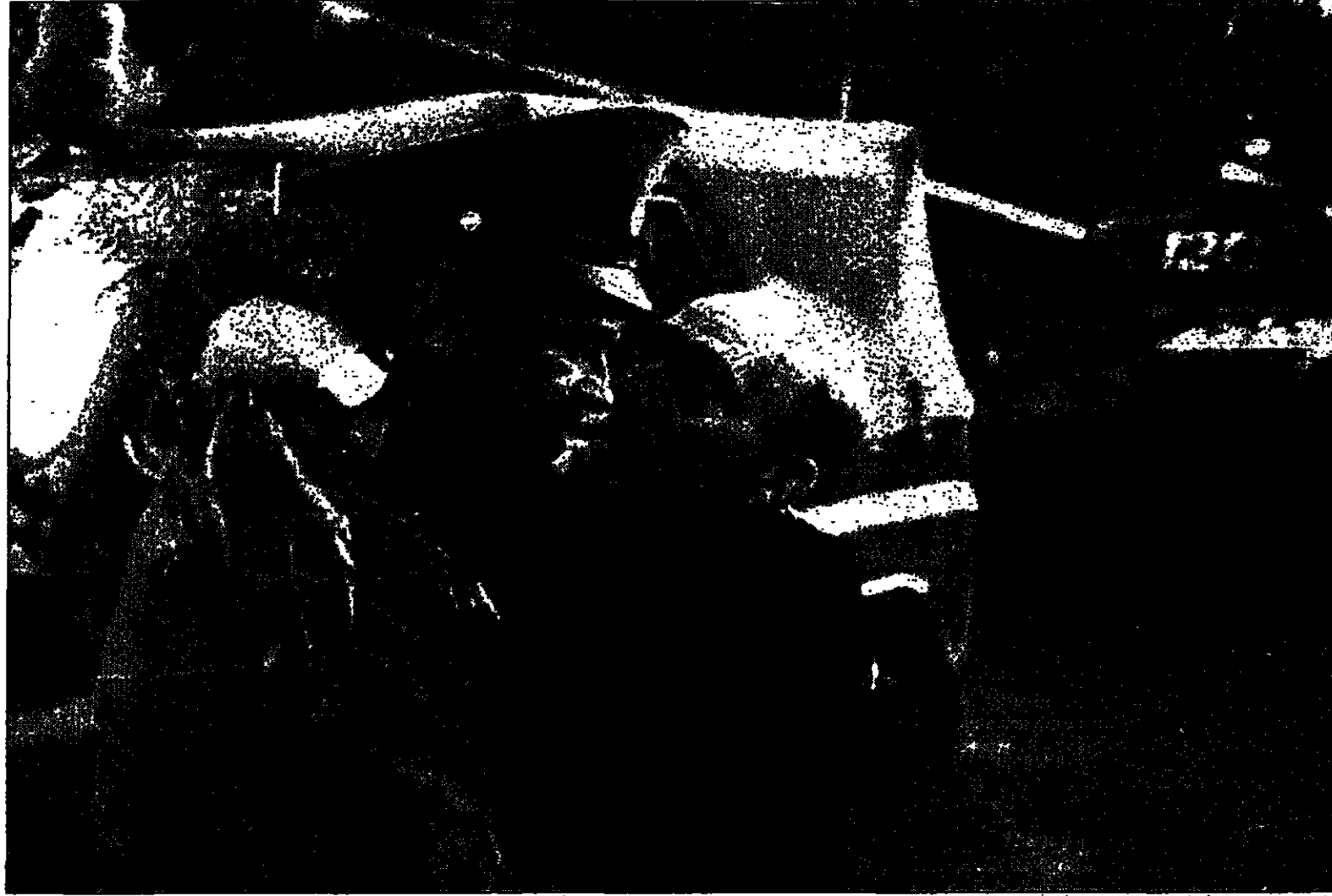
As Mr Gorbachev announced the appointments, the question was being asked: who is really in charge of the country's armed forces and security apparatus, Mr Gorbachev or Boris Yeltsin, the Russian president? Mr Yeltsin has already made some dramatic moves which could undermine Mr Gorbachev's attempts to assert supreme authority.

On Tuesday Mr Yeltsin appointed Colonel-General Konstantin Kobets, a former deputy chief of the general staff, and chairman of the Russian Federation defence and security committee since February, as his defence minister. General Kobets was one of the heroes of the failed coup, rewarded for his loyalty, after speaking out against the plotters.

Yesterday Mr Yeltsin said that he wanted a Russian national guard and declared the demise of political cells in the army. Both announcements are likely to cause a rift between the two leaders.

Hundreds of diehard generals in the armed services and in the KGB who will have breathed a sigh of relief when Mr Gorbachev was overthrown on Monday may go. Some district commanders are expected to lose their jobs. One, however, was promoted yesterday. Colonel-General Boris Pyankov, commander of the Siberian military district, was appointed a deputy defence minister in place of Army General Vladimir Govorov, who was sacked. General Govorov is a hardliner who had written several articles denouncing developments in the Soviet Union. Mr Gorbachev's decision to promote General Pyankov was influenced by General Moiseyev.

In the KGB, the top eight posts, six deputy and two first deputy chairmen, will be vulnerable after the arrest of



Farewell to arms: a grateful Muscovite hugs an officer in charge of tanks which left the Russian Federation headquarters in Moscow yesterday

General Vladimir Kryuchkov, the former KGB chairman. One of these, however, Colonel-General Leonid Shebarshin, a deputy chairman, was yesterday appointed acting chairman by Mr Gorbachev.

General Shebarshin's career is similar to that of General Kryuchkov. He was head of the First Chief Directorate, responsible for foreign intelligence-gathering, the equivalent of Britain's MI6. Mr Yeltsin may not like this appointment, unless it can be shown that General Shebarshin opposed the coup attempt.

Mr Gorbachev's first decision in changing the leadership at the ministry of internal affairs also involves a leapfrogging move. Lieutenant-General Vasily Trushin, named as acting interior minister, was a deputy interior minister responsible for the Interpol bureau. He has bypassed the only two first deputy ministers, Colonel-General Boris Gromov, the Afghan war veteran appointed to the post in December, and Lieutenant-General Ivan Shilov, a professional police officer. General Gromov's career must be in the balance, in spite of his wartime achievements.

## ARMY LOYALTY

### Troops revel in their newly discovered Russian identity

Soldiers' support for Yeltsin reveals that national identity will become more important, James Gow writes

law and political office as a matter of identity. The old ideology has collapsed, the old union that went with it was in ruins and is gone for good.

New focuses of loyalty are needed. In Moscow a few days ago, Nikolai Kapranov, a former security adviser from the Academy of Sciences put it thus: "It is a matter of identity, how you feel happy with yourself. You look around and wonder what you are. You're Russian and it feels good to be Russian."

These sentiments underpin the behaviour of the bulk of the armed forces this week.

Soldiers shaking hands with demonstrators were Russians who were happy to be Russian and responded to pleas from a Russian president and the Russian people. This is going to have consequences for relations between the military and political authority.

De facto control of the armed forces, on Russian soil, at least, seemed to have passed to the Russian president. This is what Mr Yeltsin announced. What Yeltsin had achieved what advocates of republican sovereignty had long demanded in principle in the Ukraine: control of armed

forces stationed on republican territory.

Mr Yeltsin immediately seized the initiative yesterday, extending last month's ban on party cells in bureaucracies and enterprises in Russia by issuing a decree banning party cells in army units based in the Russian Federation; a clear assertion of republican authority over the armed forces.

Mr Gorbachev will assume his formal role as supreme commander of the armed forces. Several senior officers — service chiefs and above — will probably be removed, making way for new appointees who will surely have a stronger Russian identity than their predecessors.

In the months and years ahead, the real implications will show in the development of civil-military relations in the Soviet Union. Changes will take money and time, but they are likely to alter the nature of civil-military relations. National identity is sure to become more important for the military, and links with national leaders are certain to become more significant. This will emerge from a fresh Union Treaty, which will confirm Mr Yeltsin's claim.

This week's events mean that republics will probably gain authority over forces stationed on their soil. In the longer term, it could mean far more substantial republican armed forces than the national guards envisaged in the "unsigned draft treaty". It may well mean that Union armed forces could compromise a large Russian core and smaller contingents from other "sovereign states".

This week's events, signal changes in the USSR's authority patterns, including new patterns of civil-military relations. These will have to be embraced in the new Union Treaty, which will have to give control of the military to the republics in the end. That level of independence is likely to make union more attractive to some republics, which had been set on leaving the fold.

James Gow, Research Fellow, Centre for Defence Studies, King's College, University of London, returned from Moscow this week.

## Leaders and people stayed tuned to West for truth

By MELINDA WITSTOCK AND JAMIE DEITMER

SOVIET hardliners' worst fears about the Western media's ability to expose their propaganda have been proved accurate.

Closing television stations and banning all but a select few newspapers did not isolate the people from up-to-date and reliable information. Western radio played a key role in keeping them abreast of resistance to the bungled coup.

Even President Gorbachev said yesterday that he had been glued to the BBC Russian Service throughout his incarceration, after his guards managed to rig up an aerial. John Tuss, the World Service's managing director, said: "Gorbachev said we were the best, and that is an extraordinary tribute. Three years ago the USSR was jamming us. If anyone said then that the Soviet president needed to find out what was going on in a time of duress by turning to the radio and choosing the

World Service, they would have been told they were crackers."

Cable News Network, Sky News and other Western television stations gave Boris Yeltsin, the president of the Russian Federation, the opportunity to keep his links open with the West. Munich-based Radio Liberty and the expanded Russian service of the BBC provided the means of communication with the Soviet people.

Pictures provided by Western television cameras pointed at tanks threatening the Russian parliament provoked immediate public condemnation by Western leaders, in turn picked up by international radio networks and broadcast back into the Soviet Union.

Radical Russian deputies cited the role of Radio Liberty, which broadcasts in Russian and 11 Soviet languages. Oleg Adamovich



Message of hope: militiamen join civilians in Leningrad to listen to the news

said: "It was the main channel of information for the Soviet people."

The station, funded by the United States Congress, immediately replaced its scheduled programmes. It maintained an open telephone line with the Russian parliament building, where three correspondents kept in

touch with President Yeltsin.

Sky News claimed it was watched by hundreds of thousands in the Baltic states. Lithuanians participating in a phone-in yesterday on TV-am said they were relying solely on Sky for their news. The BBC World Service, which lengthened its

Russian bulletins on Monday, yesterday more than doubled its airtime in Russian for Soviet listeners.

Back home, however, media watchers were keen to declare winners and losers in the battle to be first with the news and best with the analysis. The BBC covered the story with the authority

and sheer gravitas inspired by its correspondents in the field, notably Martin Sixsmith and Bridget Kendall. ITN, whose two Moscow correspondents, Tim Ewart and Penny Marshall, were away on honeymoon, had to make do with just one temporary reporter, Nick Worrall, the Moscow freelance reporter, was praised for his reports on Sky.

Soviet television, and radio stations returned to normal yesterday, giving fast-moving accounts of Mr Gorbachev's resumption of the Soviet presidency. But though the nine newspapers which had escaped being banned by the coup leaders continued to print, others made do with makeshift publication and put out single sheets and leaflets.

Pravda, the Communist party daily, yesterday promised its readers to report on events as objectively as possible from now on. Its main headline read, "Russia Saves the Union."

## TREATY

### Events steal a march on union pact

By JAMIE DEITMER

THE much-heralded and frequently redrafted Union Treaty, which provoked the ire of Soviet hardliners and was due to be signed on the day Gennadi Yanaev and his co-conspirators launched their coup, has once again been outpaced by events and many doubt that it will be signed in its present form.

The eight-month-long treaty negotiations always trailed behind the fast-moving expectations and aspirations of the leaders of the 15 Soviet republics and their people. For President Gorbachev, it was a race between getting the treaty signed before the republics stole another march on him.

Early on it was clear that not all of the republics would sign the agreement. Successive drafts of the treaty, latterly negotiated at a government dacha outside Moscow at Novo-Ogaryovo, were rejected as too centralist by the Baltic republics, Moldavia, Armenia and Georgia. Soviet hardliners accused Mr Gorbachev of being too ready to appease separatist ambitions and the demands of populist ethnic politicians. In the final months of negotiation only nine of the republics were prepared to continue with discussing the replacement of the state established in its present form in 1922.

The final draft, which was published on 14 August, was a mish-mash that failed to accord a decisive victory in the war of laws between the centre and the republics. Victor Gerashchenko, chairman of Gosbank, the state bank, complained about its failure to settle the issue of who finally controlled money supply and macro-economic policy.

According to the treaty, the country would be renamed the Union of Soviet Sovereign Republics (replacing Socialist with Sovereign). Defence and foreign policies would remain in the hands of the central authorities, while the republics would control their own economies and resources, co-ordinating policy with the centre. Responsibility for the route would be shared between the central authorities and the republics.

The republics managed to squeeze a number of significant concessions in the final draft negotiations. The Kremlin had originally demanded control of all military industrial plants throughout the union but in the final draft this had been watered down to a supervisory role. The republics also gained the right to a share of the Soviet Union's reserves of gold, foreign currency and diamonds.

Most significant of all, the republics secured the sole right of tax collection. Under the agreement, the republics which signed would consign 10 per cent of their tax revenue to the central authorities.

The carving up of powers and responsibilities by the republics was happening piecemeal anyway. The Ukraine, for instance, established its own custom posts. During the last few months there has been a flurry of bilateral economic agreements between the republics. Earlier this month, leaders of the five Central Asian republics met in Tashkent to agree to bind their economies more closely. For the hardliners, the treaty process looked more and more as if Mr Gorbachev was just a tinker, hand.

هكذا امتنا الأصل



## THE BALTICS

# Troops give way as nationalists show growing confidence

FROM ANATOL LIEVEN IN VILNIUS

AS BALTIC governments moved yesterday to consolidate the gains made this week on the road to independence, Soviet troops in Vilnius evacuated the television station and tower seized in the bloody military intervention in January. Their withdrawal symbolised the damage done by the failed coup to the entire Soviet loyalist position in the Baltic region.

The soldiers left the television station in a shambles. The former head of arts programmes, Nijole Baucite, and a legal consultant showed me two recording studios where acid had been poured into the electronic equipment. In a nearby room a television official was washing part of the console in an effort to save it.

Everything moveable and of any value appeared to have been looted. Empty beer, wine and vodka bottles littered the floors. Flowerpots had been smashed and the contents thrown over walls. The Lithuanian government has demanded that those responsible be brought to justice.

Outside, however, the public and television workers joined in singing patriotic hymns. Nineteen other buildings seized in January remain in military hands, including the Police Academy, now serving as the headquarters of the Black Berets. Lithuania has demanded their removal, and said that Black Berets not directly implicated in murder will not be prosecuted if they surrender with their weapons.

There has been a notable change in the tone by the Lithuanian government. Where previously they demanded "or requested" the government statement yesterday said that Vytautas Landsbergis, the Lithuanian president, had "instructed" local Soviet commanders to remove their troops. The commanders, however, waited for orders from the new Soviet

defence minister, General Mikhail Moiseyev. In contrast, troops left all the occupied buildings in Estonia and Latvia without causing excessive damage. A senior television official, wounded during the seizure of Latvian television, has died, bringing the death toll there to three. Estonians are praising the courage of five policemen and TV technicians who, barricaded at the top of the television tower in Tallinn, stopped the lift and prevented Soviet troops from cutting transmission.

In Vilnius yesterday evening, Lithuanian national defence volunteers, now more visible, paraded past the body



Landsbergis: soldiers were "instructed" to leave of their comrades.

Arturas Sakalauskas, killed in a clash with Soviet troops on Wednesday night. A Soviet soldier was wounded and captured, but the Lithuanians are refusing to confirm his identity.

In Tallinn Edgar Savisaar, the Estonian prime minister, demanded the sacking by Moscow of military commanders and factory managers in Estonia implicated in the coup. In Latvia, Soviet loyalists are considering their positions. Two of the key figures in the January intervention and in the coup, Alfreds Rubiks, the Latvian Communist party leader, and Colonel Viktor Alksnis were

reported yesterday to have vanished from Riga. The Estonian representative in Lithuania, Mart Tarnak, said that he hoped that the West would swiftly give diplomatic recognition to the Baltic countries, "now that there is no risk that this will help cause a headline backlash".

● Copenhagen: President Gorbachev is himself partly responsible for this week's abortive coup, said Janin Jurkans, the Latvian foreign minister, yesterday. "He (Gorbachev) might be regarded as indirectly guilty. The coup makers were his people," said Mr Jurkans. He was speaking at the Danish foreign ministry, having arrived unannounced from Riga on Tuesday.

Mr Jurkans criticised Mr Gorbachev for surrounding himself with the same Communist hardliners who tried to topple him and for "dragging his feet" on economic and political reforms. "Gorbachev has lost this game," Mr Jurkans said, and predicted that Boris Yeltsin, the Russian president, would emerge as the strongest leader in the country. Mr Jurkans also criticised Mr Gorbachev for not punishing "those responsible for the bloodshed in January," when Soviet troops carried out repression of the independence movements in Latvia and Lithuania. The minister said that the local Soviet forces still operating in the Baltic countries "could do a lot of damage" before a new leadership is formed in Moscow. "The war is not over, we have just won one battle," he said, referring to the Baltic independence struggle. The Danish foreign minister, Uffe Ellemann-Jensen, sharing the podium with Mr Jurkans, said Denmark would establish diplomatic relations with the Baltic countries "as soon as practically possible". (AP)

Leading article, page 15



Memorial flame: a Lithuanian parliamentary guard lighting a candle at the spot where his comrade, Arturas Sakalauskas, was killed in shooting between the guards and two Soviet interior ministry militiamen in Vilnius on Wednesday night. One Soviet soldier was wounded

## NATIONALISM

## Republics press for greater freedom

Michael Hornsby reports Moscow may have to devolve more power to republics than granted in the Union Treaty

PRESSURE for the devolution of power to the Soviet Union's constituent republics appeared to be growing yesterday after the failed putsch by hardline communists bent on forestalling moves by President Gorbachev to permit greater regional autonomy. The Soviet leader may now be forced to surrender even more power than he had originally intended.

The leadership in the Ukraine yesterday called for the republic to have its own national guard and control of Soviet troops stationed on its territory. They also demanded the establishment of a "transitional government" in Moscow structured to prevent any future coup attempts.

Leonid Kravchuk, communist chairman of the presidium, is convening a special

session of parliament in Kiev tomorrow to make the changes and to debate the possibility of the republic issuing its own currency.

Mr Kravchuk is under pressure to pursue full sovereignty for the Ukraine, which with 52 million inhabitants is the most populous republic after the Russian Federation and an industrial and agricultural power. On Wednesday night thousands of demonstrators called for full independence at a rally in Kiev's main square. Speakers criticised Mr Kravchuk for being too slow to condemn the coup.

The nationalist Rukh movement, which is expected to challenge Mr Kravchuk in presidential polls in December, said yesterday he should be replaced as chairman. "We need a change in the leadership in both Moscow and the Ukraine," Sergei Odarch, deputy leader of Rukh, said. "In Moscow, the highest ranking officials supported the coup. In Kiev, the leadership delayed its reaction for two days. That is why we have to start the changes with Kravchuk."

Defending his position, Mr Kravchuk said the Ukrainian presidium had been divided on how to respond to the coup. "One part of the presidium was against it, the second

part supported it, the third were careful. After meeting for two days, 15 out of 25 members of the supreme council supported our declaration that the decisions of the emergency committee would not be recognised."

Mr Kravchuk said. "On the morning of August 19, Boris Yeltsin called me in my car and I told him that I would never recognise this committee."

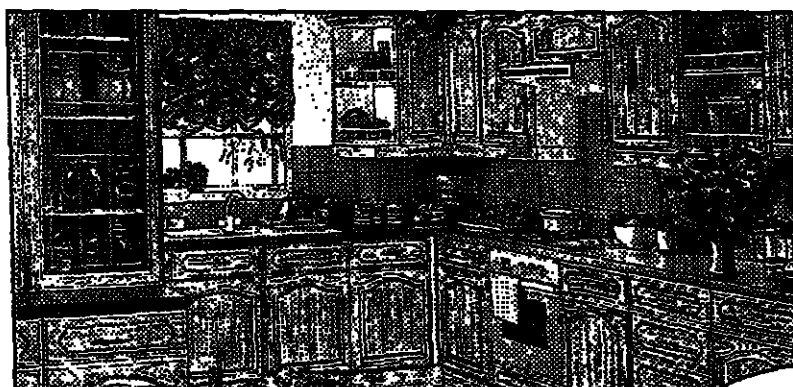
The Ukraine has not yet made up its mind to sign the Union Treaty, Mr Gorbachev's blueprint for a looser federal structure within the Soviet Union. Three other republics were due to have signed the treaty on Tuesday.

Six of the 15 republics — the three Baltic republics, which have declared their "independence", plus Georgia, Moldova and Armenia — have rejected the treaty in favour of full sovereignty. The Ukrainian leadership may now come under increasing pressure to do the same.

Nursultan Nazarbayev, president of Kazakhstan, the biggest of the Central Asian republics, was reported yesterday to have resigned from the politburo and Central Committee of the Soviet Communist party. The Interfax agency, quoting Mr Nazarbayev's press office, said he had done so after refusing to sign a party resolution backing the coup.

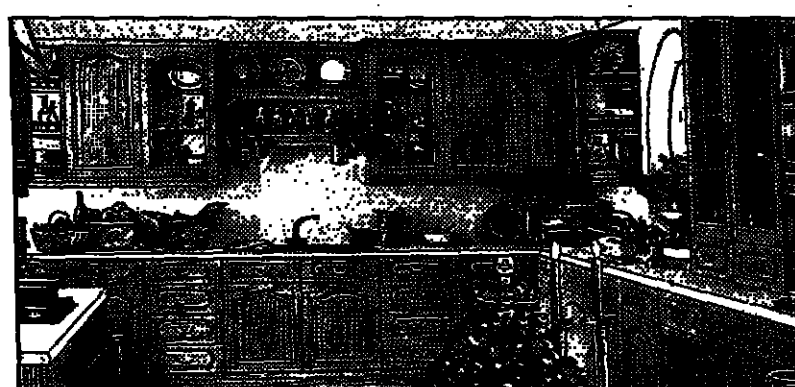
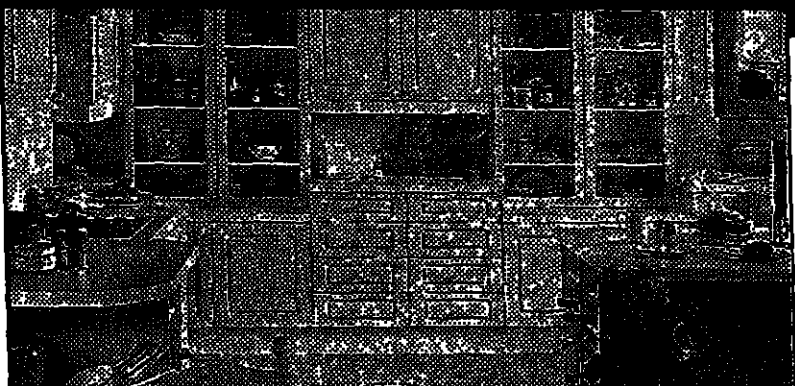
Zviad Gamsakhurdia, president of the Transcaucasian republic of Georgia, was reported by Agence France-Press yesterday as claiming that Mr Gorbachev had engineered the coup as a way to boost his sagging popularity.

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PAGE 16 DAILY MIRROR, Friday, August 2, 1991

# FURY RINGS OUT AT BT PRICE RISE

BRITISH Telecom sparked new fury yesterday when it announced it was again putting up the prices of local and cheap-rate calls.

Shadow Trade Secretary Gordon Brown said the increase reinforced his demand for an inquiry into BT, which is already making £3 billion a year.

He added that the "unacceptable" rises followed hot on the heels of revelations that four top executives of the company had been awarded £300,000-plus salaries.

Labour MP Bob Cryer fumed: "BT is again putting profits first and customers second."

"Most of its customers will face increases during a deep recession when BT's profits are soaring."

By ALAN LAW and  
SHEREE DODD.

BT said its package - which includes a 4.8 per cent increase for local and cheap-rate calls - would increase average private phone bills by only 22 a quarter.

And it boasted that the package would help many consumers.

Pensioners who do not use their phones frequently will be given 50 per cent off their rental and have their first 30 call units free.

The cost of international calls will be cut

by an average 10 per cent and daytime national calls will be frozen.

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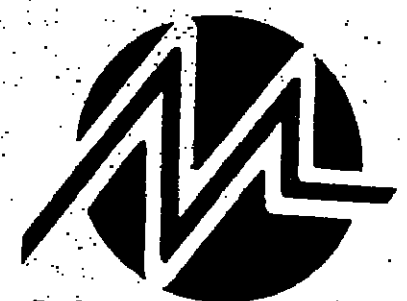
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# British aid package leads EC rescue mission for Soviet economy



Major: remarks a subtle reinterpretation of G7

AN EMERGENCY package of proposals for increased aid to the Soviet Union was put to the Group of Seven leading industrialised nations yesterday by British officials acting on the instructions of the prime minister.

John Major, who holds the rotating chairmanship of the G7 until the end of the year, made the aid question his priority as he began reviewing British policy towards Moscow in the light of the momentous three-day upheaval that ended with President Gorbachev's return to power.

His review came as Britain's European partners stepped up their pressure for vastly increased aid for the shaken Soviet government, while the Bush administration expressed continued reluctance to pour in money before substantial economic reforms were in place. Mr Major called his senior officials together early yesterday and asked them to draw up and circulate to their G7 counterparts new ideas for accelerating and reinforcing the Soviet

moves towards democracy and a market economy.

At the same time he lifted the freeze on the £50 million British "knowhow" fund for the Soviet Union. Later, the European Community reinstated its £630 million programme of food aid and technical assistance. Under intense pressure at home and abroad to respond to the failure of the coup with tangible measures of support for President Gorbachev's reform process, the prime minister indicated that the success of the resistance movement led by Boris Yeltsin had opened the door to closer co-operation with the West.

"I think circumstances have changed now... Many of the impediments to reform are the people who launched this coup. The coup has failed. They will no longer be there. This may mean a different passage for reform and if that is the case the circumstances have changed," Mr Major said on BBC Radio 4's Today programme.

His remarks and briefings by

With Mr Gorbachev back in the Kremlin, Nicholas Wood and Michael Binyon report on economic decisions taken by Britain and other Western powers to support him

Downing Street aides amounted to a subtle reinterpretation of the outcome of last month's London G7 summit, which offered only technical assistance and financial advice in place of the stabilisation fund of up to £7.3 billion that President Gorbachev had been seeking. Then Mr Major argued that the Soviet Union was being given all it wanted. Now he is suggesting that more would have been given had not the pace of economic reform been proceeding at a "snail's pace" in the face of opposition from Kremlin hardliners.

Gerald Kaufman, Labour's chief foreign affairs spokesman, underlined the pressure on Mr Major to make a dramatic response to the failure of the coup by reiterating his call for a new

Marshall Plan to put the ailing Soviet economy back on its feet. He branded Mr Major as a "Johnny-come-lately" and predicted his new package would prove ineffective.

The prime minister said: "The thing they most need is not just cash but assistance in how to do things: how to establish private enterprise, how to set up a stock exchange, how to operate a market." More joint venture projects with British firms and improved trade links were also mentioned.

Senior government sources maintained that the EC's existing food aid programme would help to ensure the Soviet people had "bread on the table" this winter, but this might also be expanded. This cautious approach is un-

likely to satisfy Britain's community partners.

Bonn has already called for broad Western engagement in the Soviet economic reform programme, saying this must now be generously supported by credits. The French government has also suggested that the meagre help offered by the G7 must be revised, and Belgium and Austria also called yesterday for increased Western aid to underpin market economy reforms.

The continental pressure for immediate cash relief for the shaken Soviet government will run into sharp opposition in Washington, however. The Bush administration and several senior Republican senators said immediately after the coup's collapse on Wednesday that they did not think the objections to massive cash aid had been removed. Senator Richard Lugar, a former chairman of the Senate foreign relations committee, said that until investors were guaranteed freedom to own property and repatriate their profits, they

would not invest. Government aid would simply pour into a "black pit".

But in Bonn a spokesman for Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, said the West should realise that economic and political reform in the Soviet Union had to go together. He called on the 24 nations of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development to provide credits to Moscow and other financial assistance.

He also called for more help from the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. Germany is by far the largest provider of direct aid to the Soviet Union. It has provided or pledged around DM 60 billion (£20.4 billion) since 1989.

Japan announced yesterday that it would give support for further Soviet reforms and would unfreeze aid when the situation returned to normal.

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## UNITED STATES

### White House attempts to stem the Yeltsin tide

FROM PETER STOTHARD, US EDITOR, IN WASHINGTON

THE Bush administration yesterday mounted a concerted campaign to boost President Gorbachev, rejecting the widespread view that he would become a mere figurehead leader of the Soviet Union.

As Congressional leaders heralded "the beginning of the Yeltsin era", referring to the president of the Russian Federation, Lawrence Eagleburger, the deputy Secretary of State, said that it was "dangerous" to make the assumption that Mr Gorbachev was weaker as a result of the coup.

"I think that most of the power he had before will be with him still," he said.

A senior White House official, speaking at the president's holiday home in Kennebunkport, Maine, said that "we may see the true Mr Gorbachev coming out now". The Soviet president was "not commensurately weakened" by the success Mr Yeltsin and his new relationship with President Bush, he said.

The public comments came on a day of intense argument in Washington about the impact of this week's events on future relations between the United States and the Soviet Union. James Baker, the Sec-

retary of State, supported by others who have invested heavily in negotiations with the Kremlin, is reluctant that the failed coup change too much too fast.

Top of the State Department agenda is the Middle East peace conference, sponsored by the two superpowers, which is due to take place in October. Officials are also concerned about the growing pressure, from European governments as well as Capitol Hill, to provide more direct financial aid to Moscow.

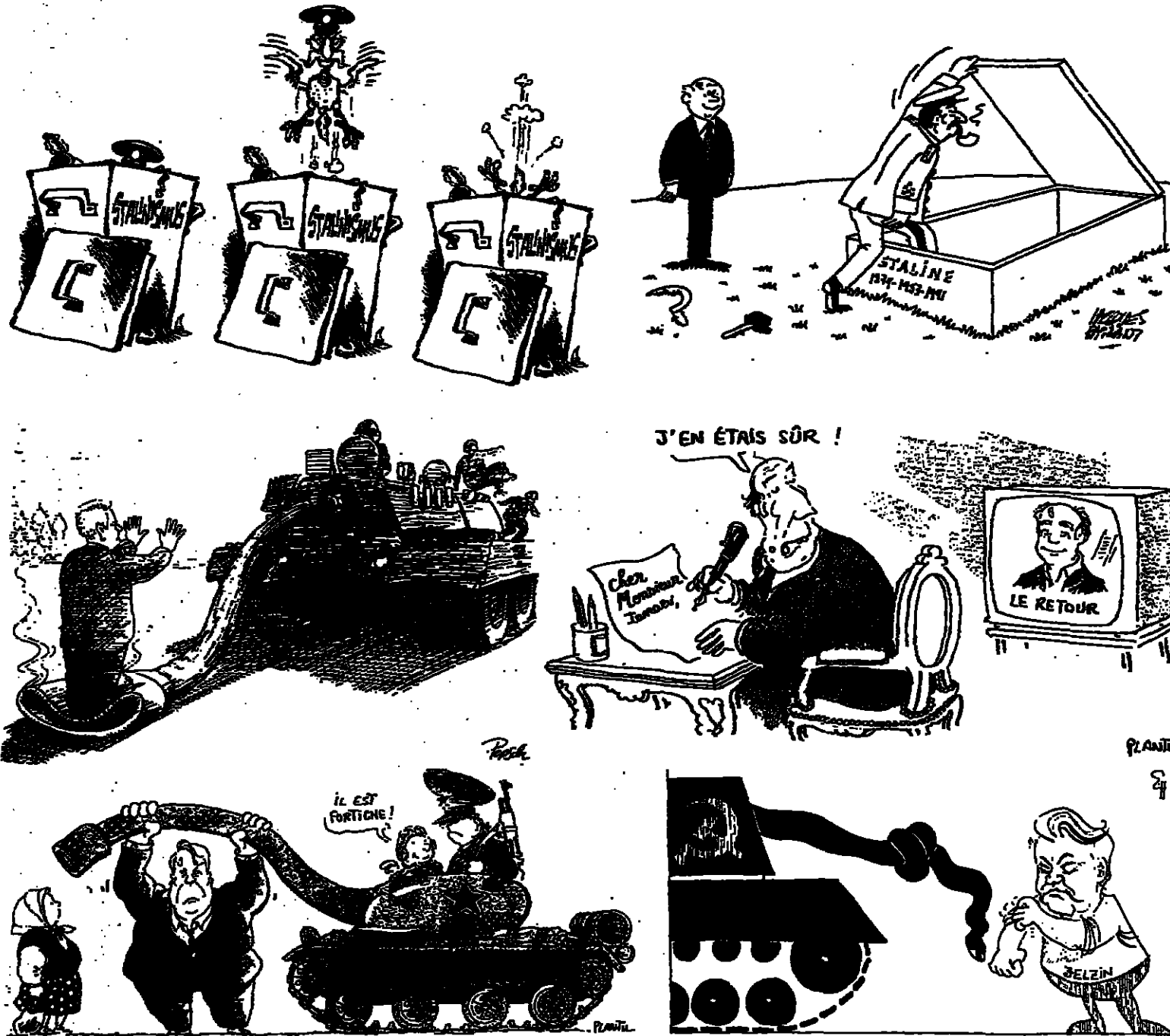
"The administration's policy towards aid is not likely to change," Mr Eagleburger said. "If serious economic reform is undertaken we will help, but if they do not go forward with these reforms giving them money will only put off the day of reckoning." The American position will not be one of "democracy has triumphed, now let's pour money in", the White House official added.

Support for a radical change in American policy was led by Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan of New York who said yesterday that the "age of totalitarianism is over and that the possibility of totalitarianism may be over as well".

He said that success of Soviet democracy ought now to penetrate "our thick institutional skulls, still lost in the fog of the Cold War". There was growing support for the view of the House intelligence committee chairman that "the Gorbachev era is over and the Yeltsin era has begun".

Between the extremes of radicalism and the status quo, officials sought to establish what the new power balance in Moscow would mean both for overall relations and for individual bilateral issues. As senior officials congratulated themselves on the impact of President Bush's support against the coup, other analysts expressed caution at the assumption over how much influence the United States had had on events and might have again in future.

American officials had shown a good deal of ambivalence about the course of the coup attempt. Diverse accounts emerged yesterday of who had most accurately predicted that the plotters had failed. Top laurels for precision went to General Colin Powell, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, whose direct knowledge of the Soviet military had led him to the conclusion that the soldiers on the street could not be guaranteed to shoot the people.



EUROPE'S cartoonists divided their attention between tilting at the re-emergence of Stalinism from the dustbin of history in the *Manich Tageszeitung*, top left, and returning the unwanted ghost to its coffin in *Le Figaro*, top right. The heroism of Boris Yeltsin occupied many Euro-

pean minds, as witness the *Sud Deutsche Zeitung's* artist, centre left, and consecutive issues of *Le Monde*, at the bottom. But *Le Monde*, centre right, could not resist a tilt at President Mitterrand's ambivalent reaction to the march of events. America was relieved that Presi-

dent Gorbachev was back, but Mr Yeltsin appeared to the country's *amour propre* as the champion of democracy. A cartoon in *USA Today*, the biggest circulation newspaper, showed a sunnied Mr Yeltsin walking a dazed, toothless bear. In one hand, he held the animal's fangs. Mr

Gorbachev was nowhere to be seen. The drawing summed up the conservative assessment of Mr Gorbachev as a transitional figure between dictatorship and democracy. Richard Lugar, a Republican senator from Indiana, described the Kremlin leader as a "spent force".

## STRASBOURG

### The left voices its doubts

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN BRUSSELS

DESPITE his heroic role in the Soviet coup that failed this week, Boris Yeltsin was yesterday still not a popular figure throughout the European Parliament. Last April Mr Yeltsin went to Strasbourg apparently expecting to be lionised in the manner he had become accustomed to in the rest of the world.

To his obvious surprise and irritation, he was called a nationalist demagogue by the leader of the parliament's Socialists, Jean-Pierre Cot, whose Socialist colleagues were equally insulting.

When the parliament met here yesterday to discuss the Soviet coup, M Cot was expected to make amends but turned out to be quite unrepentant. He duly paid tribute to the bravery of the Soviet people and the Russian parliament, but when he came to single out an individual hero who had "earned his spurs as a statesman" he named not Mr Yeltsin but Eduard Shevardnadze, the ex-foreign minister. There was a roar of derision from other parts of the political spectrum at this omission.

Glyn Ford, leader of the British Labour group of MEPs, said that for all his courage, Mr Yeltsin "often appears to be an extreme nationalist". In Mr Ford's book, nationalism is politically incorrect.

"For example, Yeltsin said that Russians should not shoot Ukrainians, or Ukrainians shooting Russians, or anybody shooting anybody."

## GERMANY

### Bonn cannot provide cash it says is vital

FROM IAN MURRAY IN BONN

GERMANY wants Western democracies to send "substantial" aid to the Soviet Union but cannot afford to send any more money to help President Gorbachev's government members indicated yesterday.

Bonn also wants the European Community to hasten negotiations towards associate membership for Hungary, Poland and Czechoslovakia, to encourage their economic development and lessen their fears of another coup.

Germany pledged a total of DM60 billion (£20 billion) in aid for the Soviet Union, so as to ensure Mr Gorbachev's support for unification and to pay for Soviet troops to leave the east. But the cost of unification has left no money for anything else.

Nevertheless, Helmut Kohl, the chancellor, will be urging other countries to contribute. "The stupidest politics possible now would be for us to sit back as interested bystanders," he said. At the G7 economic summit last month, Herr Kohl argued that Mr Gorbachev would be weakened if he was not given sufficient help. From Herr Kohl's perspective, events have proved that assessment correct and so made the case for more aid more credible.

Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the foreign minister, said: "I hope that everyone will draw the conclusion from these developments that the West is now called upon to support reform more effectively than has been the case in the past."

## FRANCE

### Mitterrand dents his image

FROM PHILIP JACOBSON IN PARIS

AUTUMN'S political hunting season has begun early in France, with President Mitterrand facing fierce criticism for his response to the attempted coup in Moscow. The disastrous impression left by his television appearance on Monday night, when he seemed to have accepted that the Gorbachev era was over, was scarcely cancelled out by another inept performance after Wednesday's electrifying news from the Russian capital.

The vehemence with which the Elysée Palace is now hitting back suggests that Mitterrand, who can be superb on such occasions, is beginning to realise how badly his image has been dented. It must sting particularly sharply to realise that many loyal Socialists were as dismayed by

what they heard as the massed ranks of the conservative leadership now pouring scorn on Mitterrand's conduct.

Pierre Mauroy, the Socialist party secretary, has delivered some wounding observations on the difference between the immediate condemnation and the president's equivocal early reaction. Supporters wonder aloud what possessed Mitterrand - normally so deft when assessing public opinion - to declare that it was too early to commit France to economic sanctions against President Gorbachev's apparent successors.

As for the presidential appearance the following day, when Mitterrand insisted that he had always believed the coup would fail, the normally sympathetic newspaper *Liberation* caught the public

mood by writing of "a session of laborious and disjointed self-justification".

But how could Mitterrand, France's great communicator, have got it so wrong at the very moment that President Bush and John Major were declaring their unwavering opposition to the coup? Why did he wait until Wednesday to acknowledge that Boris Yeltsin, the Russian Federation president, was incontestably the hero of the hour? The fulsome tributes subsequently paid to Mr Yeltsin during yesterday's television appearance merely underlined that omission.

Now Mitterrand is to invite Mr Yeltsin to make an official visit, it was announced yesterday. The Elysée hopes the visit can be arranged in the near future.

## Historic papal visit still on

Rome - The Vatican yesterday hailed the collapse of the coup and said it was more important than ever that the Pope should visit the country. The Vatican also said it hoped the victory of pro-democracy forces would lead to greater international aid for the Soviet Union.

A statement by Joaquin Navarro, the Vatican spokesman, said: "The Holy See shares the sentiments expressed by the international community about the recovery of normality in the Soviet Union and the return of President Gorbachev to his functions."

Señor Navarro said the short-lived coup would not affect plans for an historic papal trip to the Soviet Union, seen as a possibility for next year. He said the Soviet upheaval "confirms in a certain way the usefulness of this trip". (AP)

## India praises triumph of will

Delhi - P.V. Rao, the Indian prime minister, hailed the collapse of the Kremlin coup as a victory for President Gorbachev's reformist policies, reversing his earlier timid reaction to the attempted overthrow of the Soviet leader.

The coup's collapse demonstrated the "essential validity of the spirit of perestroika and glasnost initiated by Gorbachev", Mr Rao said, adding that his restoration also "proved the triumph of the will of the great Soviet people". (AFP)

## People power

Manila - President Aquino said the reinstatement of Mr Gorbachev was a triumph of "people power" - the same outpouring of popular protest that swept her into office in 1986. (Reuters)

## Back en route

London - The Foreign Office lifted its blanket advice not to travel to any part of the Soviet Union. It said travellers could go to Moscow and many other parts of the Soviet Union, but advised against visits to the Baltic region, Georgia, Armenia or Azerbaijan.

## Saudi loan

Manama, Bahrain - Saudi Arabia has signed a \$1.5 billion loan for the Soviet Union pledged last year as reward for its support during the Gulf war, bankers and economists said. (Reuters)

## Yeltsin in wax

London - Officials at Madame Tussauds waxworks announced they had asked the Boris Yeltsin to pose for them. If he accepts, he will be the first leader from the Soviet Union to pose for his model in London - President Gorbachev's model was made up from photographs. (AFP)

## Nobel urged

Brussels - Egon Klepsch of Germany, the leader of the European Parliament's Christian Democrat group, has proposed Boris Yeltsin for the Nobel peace prize. President Gorbachev is a previous winner of the prize. (AFP)

## Pink salmon

Juneau, Alaska - Governor Walter Hickel is offering millions of pounds of excess salmon to the Soviet Union "to celebrate the victory of democracy". He offered the fish as a gift in a letter to the Soviet ambassador, Viktor Komplektov. (AP)

# Under-rehearsed plotters failed to read Polish script

FROM ROGER BOYES IN WARSAW

THE political operetta of the year is how the Poles are describing the fumbled Moscow coup, yet it was certainly not a piece by Lehár - there were no prancing young hussars and few broken hearts.

The problem, say Polish critics who have General Wojciech Jaruzelski's 1981 coup in mind, began with Act One, soon after curtain up. How could skilled actors like the head of the KGB, the army and the interior ministry have fluffed their lines with such incompetence? Martial law in Poland, the last comparable coup in Eastern Europe, was declared at midnight on Saturday, December 12-13.

Workers had little chance to organise factory opposition. Almost all telephones were cut off. By contrast, the Soviet plotters announced their move early on Monday morning and by the end of the day the supporters of Boris Yeltsin, the Russian Federation president, were damning up the resistance.

Why was Mr Yeltsin not arrested? Polish authorities in 1981 interned Lech Walesa and 5,000 Solidarity activists and sympathisers as well as disgraced communist figures. In the long term this was a mistake, since prison brought Solidarity closer together, but in the first few weeks internment crippled resistance. Poland was blacked out - journalists had to smuggle out their reports -

but in Moscow this week Mr Yeltsin was receiving calls from world leaders. Soviet borders remained open, air traffic was more or less normal, yet in even the most amateurish of coups a priority is to restrict movement.

The conspirators skimped on rehearsal time and the result was obvious on opening night. Before the Polish coup, army units had checked where farmers were stockpiling grain while police agents drew up a list of the factories and regions most likely to oppose martial law. But the only comparable research by the Soviet army was in the Baltic republics with the menacing but futile attacks on Lithuanian border posts. The military action in the

Baltic republics this week came closest to a coup, but it was still a half-hearted effort.

"It all goes to show that you cannot have a coup d'état when there is no état," says Mikhail Komar, a Polish writer and publisher who was interned by General Jaruzelski in 1981. "Coups need to start at the centre and work outwards. But where is the centre nowadays in the Soviet Union?" There is an immense difference in launching a coup in a multinational superpower and a medium-sized country such as Poland, or a young Third World state. Potential supporters of the coup in dogmatic party factions or the official trade unions in provincial towns did not take sides on

Monday, suggesting that they were as much in the dark as everybody else.

Only sections of the army appear to have been gearing up. Western intelligence specialists say that army political officers with troops in Germany and Poland were rotated two months ago.

The one lesson that the coup leaders seemed to have drawn from the Polish experience was the need to minimise the negative reaction abroad. The most sensitive of the plotters to Western opinion was Valentin Pavlov, the prime minister. He remembered the devastating effect on Poland of Western sanctions and the credit freeze after martial law.



# Warnock calls for enquiry to confront genetic research fears



Warnock: moral questions appear new to public

A ROYAL Commission to investigate the moral issues arising from the human genome project, the international effort to map the genetic codes of life, was called for yesterday by Lady Warnock, the former chairwoman of the Warnock Committee on embryo research.

Speaking during the final day of the eleventh human gene mapping workshop in London, she suggested that many of the moral questions raised were old but appeared new in the minds of a distrustful public.

Lady Warnock, mistress of Gorton College, Cambridge, said it was likely that some people would accuse doctors of going against nature and of "playing God" when they began to use the new genetic knowledge. Such accusations might erupt if doctors applied new techniques to ensure

that only genetically healthy eggs were implanted in a mother.

Lady Warnock said critics appeared to base their opposition on the notion of a boundary between what was natural and what was unnatural. However, if this were a sound moral argument then the emergency removal of an appendix or a caesarean section would "be disallowed on the grounds that the surgeon here would be playing God".

She said that "discussion, explanation and dialogue" was needed to overcome public scepticism and pave the way for a moral consensus on applying genetic knowledge.

Agreement was needed, for example, on whether society should sanction germline therapy, a technique that would allow doctors to detect and remove an

A project to chart the genetic codes of life may lead to accusations of doctors "playing God". Nick Nuttall reports on a call to assess the moral issues raised

undesirable gene from an embryo or a fertilised egg.

Lady Warnock indicated that there were critics who wished to prohibit such therapy. However, there might be circumstances, for example in the battle against Aids, where such treatment would be justified, she said.

Other questions focused on the desirability of screening populations for inherited diseases such as muscular dystrophy and genetic susceptibility to conditions such as heart disease or high blood pressure later in life. The

extent to which this knowledge was made available to employers and insurance companies raised other moral concerns, Lady Warnock said.

She did not agree with those critics who claimed that applying emerging genetic knowledge to treat and prevent inherited disorders was a slippery slope to unknown horrors. Lady Warnock said it was within society's power to block this slope at any stage.

She likened the situation to the debate which revolved around the use of human embryos in

research. That was resolved by the creation of strict laws covering the age at which embryos could be used, she said.

Lady Warnock also criticised the growing number of parents of mildly handicapped children who voiced objections to genetic research. She said many mildly handicapped children "undoubtedly lived quite tolerable lives".

"The same is simply not true of children born with Tay-Sachs or Lesch-Nyhan disease. The mildly handicapped lobby have no right to speak on behalf of children such as sufferers from these conditions nor on behalf of their parents," she said.

Dr Ellen Solomon, co-chairman of the gene mapping workshop and a scientist with the Imperial Cancer Research Fund in

London, said that more than 600 new genes had been added to the map following this week's conference. That brought the total pinpointed to about 2,500 of the 50,000 to 100,000 believed to be carried in a human cell.

Among the new additions are genes believed to be responsible for retinitis pigmentosa, an inherited form of progressive blindness, and one responsible for some forms of progressive epilepsy. Others, implicated in the early onset of cancer and possible ovarian cancer, some forms of muscular dystrophy and defects in hand and foot development, have also been added.

It is expected that mapping the total genome will take a further 15 years and £2 billion.

Leading article, page 15

## Besotted student spent nine months following teacher

By RAY CLANCY

AN ART student who was besotted by her college lecturer was yesterday ordered by a court never to contact him again after she admitted stroking his bottom and following him around for nine months.

Beverly West, aged 39, became obsessed with David Cobb while drawing nudes in his adult education class at Bath College. She would wait outside his classroom and follow him home, lurking outside his house and trailing him in her car. Bath magistrates' court was told.

She was cleared of two charges of indecent assault and two of assault. "Although we find these charges not proved, it does not change the fact that you have been guilty of a great deal of behaviour that needs to be stopped—and stopped quickly," said Robert Howard, chairman of the magistrates. "You must not make a positive attempt to speak to, telephone or write letters to this man. You cannot contact him in any way whatever, ever again."

Ms West was bound over for £200 to keep the peace for two years with a warning that if she applied to "all Her Majesty's subjects, but especially to David Cobb and his family". She was ordered to pay £100 for breaching a previous order.

She wiped tears from her eyes as she tried to explain her obsession to the court. "I just think he's lovely and I can't help it. I don't think he is used to being touched on the bottom or even on the arm. I



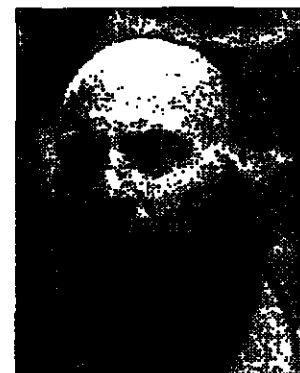
West: "I realise I can't go near him any more"

smacked him on the bottom but I certainly don't think it was an indecent assault. An indecent assault is something that dirty, horrible old men do to nice little girls. I don't fall into that category.

"I used to follow him around and follow him home because I just wanted to talk to him. I was trying to help him. I know I seemed a nuisance but I was just doing what I thought a social worker should have done for him. I don't think he's used to any affection."

However, Mr Cobb, aged 45, who said he had been happily married for 21 years, took a different view, saying that he felt he had been sexually harassed for nine months, and describing how on one occasion she had burst into his class, begging him to come to bed and refused to leave until she was dragged out by police.

"I was very angry that there was nothing I could say or do to stop her depraved behaviour. It had affected me, my



Cobb: "I felt completely assaulted and abused"

family, my children, my wife, our neighbours and my colleagues at work, who have often had to rescue me."

One day Mrs West followed him to work and confronted him in the college car park. "She kept touching and grabbing hold of me and stroking my bottom. I told her to go away and a college technician came to my rescue."

When Mr Cobb drove home that evening, she came up to him as he parked outside his house. "She began touching and stroking my bottom again. She touched my hair and my arms. She asked me if I liked touching and said she did not get enough touching because her husband was a cruel Australian. I called the police. I felt completely assaulted and abused. I just wanted it all to stop."

After the case, Mrs West said: "He'll always be in my mind and I'll always long to see him. But now I realise that no matter how I feel, I can't go near him any more."

## Dole-fraud detectives save the taxpayer up to £65m

By PETER VICTOR

THE government is to add 200 staff to its unemployment benefit fraud investigation team, increasing it by 25 per cent, after it saved the Treasury £65 million in the last financial year.

Figures released yesterday by the Department of Employment show that as a result of investigations 65,000 people signed off the unemployment register. The team of 400 investigators and 200 back-up staff checked 300,000 unemployment benefit claims last year.

The service costs £21.4 million a year and the net saving to the taxpayer was estimated by the department at £43 million. However, dole fraud is thought to cost the Treasury more than ten times that figure.

The Rayner scrutiny of 1981 estimated that potential frauds accounted for 8 per cent of benefit claimants. The employment department emphasised yesterday that the £5 million to be spent on extra staff was for targeting employer collusion and travelling frauds.

The department will continue to target employers who encourage their staff to claim dole money to supplement low wages. "Firms in the construction industry, road haulage and the rag trade figure typically in the cases we have investigated," one official said.

Some claimants travelled hundreds of miles to work while continuing to sign on in their home towns, officials said. In one case, however, a worker made things easier by parking his firm's van outside the benefit office.

The department investigated a collusive employer and his accountant in the West Midlands after a local Jobcentre received several complaints from people who had been offered low wages and time off to sign on. Nine people were successfully prosecuted, including the production manager and accountant.

Investigators are often subjected to verbal abuse and are occasionally assaulted, sometimes requiring hospital treatment. The investigations are also more labour intensive where there is an element of collusion with an employer, said employment department officials.



Homecoming: Vida Fenton, aged two, with her mother Melissa at Gatwick airport yesterday on their return from Philadelphia. They were reunited on Monday for the first time since the child was taken from her home in Hornsey, north London, on July 5. Mrs Fenton, aged 27, said: "The first thing I'm going to do is take Vida to see her grandmother. We are planning a big family reunion." Police are seeking the extradition of Bernard Downes, the child's father, to answer kidnapping charges.

## Scots owe £365m in poll tax

By KERRY GILL

ABOUT £365 million is still owing in unpaid community charge for the first two years of the tax in Scotland, the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities said yesterday.

Another £750 million, 85 per cent, is owed for the current financial year and the group called for a publicity campaign urging people to pay. This year councils have received only 15 per cent of their poll tax when they

should have been paid at least a third of the money due. Evidence points to non-payment levels being even higher by next April.

Jean McPadden, the convention's president, said: "The collection situation is not improving and local government continues to bear the burden of this tax. That burden affects services and of services affects people." Almost 5.7 million adults were summonsed for non-

payment in the first 15 months of the community charge in England and Wales, according to figures published in the *Municipal Journal* today (Douglas Broom writes).

The Journal, quoting Home Office sources, says that almost four million people were made the subject of court liability orders and 449 had been given either an actual or a suspended prison sentence for non-payment by the end of June.

## Performers risk lure of the operating theatre

By SIMON TAIT  
ARTS CORRESPONDENT

APPEARING on the Edinburgh Fringe is becoming increasingly hazardous. Verbal missiles from the director of the Edinburgh Festival—Frank Dunlop described the Fringe as "a third-rate circus, a series of sideshows" last week—can be dodged, but the physical injury rate is rising.

On Wednesday night one of the most popular stand-up comedians of this year's Fringe, the Australian Bob Downes, described by his manager, Jonathan Thoday as "the raciest showbusiness personality in the world", tore a tendon in his foot after slipping on his wig. His 10.30 performance last night was still in doubt an hour before curtain-up. Mr Thoday said: "I've had shows on here for six years and I've never had an injury, but this year the Fringe seems to be accident prone."

The Fringe began with a near-tragedy at the opening cavalcade when one of a team of ambulancemen pulling a charity float was run over. He was badly hurt.

Other casualties include, Annie Davey of Circus Oz, who fell from a trapeze breaking her neck and both wrists, a performer in a show called *Dicing with Death*—a *Culinary Murder Mystery* who chopped the end of his finger off, and an actor with the TNT theatre company who broke his pelvis and jaw off-stage when he sleep-walked through a third-storey window.

Keith Little, the accident department consultant at Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, who said that his staff had treated a fire-eater who breathed the wrong way, added: "This is easily our busiest three weeks."

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Aids visit: The Duchess of York bringing a smile to the faces of staff at Ruchill hospital, Glasgow, yesterday. During her visit she toured an Aids ward and met eight patients suffering from Aids or infected by HIV.

The duchess, as patron of the Motor Neurone Disease Association, later visited the Western general hospital in Edinburgh to see pioneering work into the disease which claimed the lives of the actor David Niven and Don Revie, former manager of the England football team.

● The Princess of Wales interrupted her family holiday in Balmoral yesterday to be at the bedside of Adrian Ward-Jackson, a senior figure in the art world who is dying of Aids in St Mary's

hospital, Paddington, London. She has seen Mr Ward-Jackson, aged 41, four times in three days, including yesterday's long visit.

Mr Ward-Jackson had to give up his post as chairman of the Arts Council's advisory dance panel in May when taken ill. He is a former chairman of the Contemporary Arts Society and has played a prominent role in Aids charities. He shares with the princess a love of dance.

The princess had spent three days in Balmoral with the Prince of Wales and her sons William and Harry when she received a call that her friend had only a short time to live. She is expected to return to Scotland by the weekend.

## Few honours for Britain's film famous

By JOE JOSEPH

IF BOB Hope should die, think only this of him. That there's some theatre in south-east London that is for ever named after him.

On Sunday, the comedian with the famous ski-jump nose will top the bill at the London Palladium. Money from the show will go towards keeping the Bob Hope Theatre in Eltham in funds.

Bob Hope is Eltham's most commemorated son. His theatre began life in 1946 as the Little Eltham Theatre. Pressed for cash in 1978, its managers tactfully reminded Bob Hope that he had been born in 1903

in Croydon Road, Eltham. Hope, who has made a fetish of thanking people for the money, started pumping money into the 230-seat amateur theatre in 1980 to sustain his own memory. Two years later the theatre was renamed after its new benefactor.

How odd that Eltham waited so long to honour such a famous Old Boy. In America they must think it strange how little fuss the British make of compatriots who left to make their names in the Hollywood dream factory.

Charlie Chaplin has a statue in Leicester Square. But Richmond has made little fuss over

Ronald Colman, and Co Down does not send up fireworks for Greer Garson.

James Mason came from Huddersfield. Stewart Granger from London. Where are the plaques across Britain to Leslie Howard, Claude Rains and Olivia de Havilland? Is Walton-on-Thames ashamed of Julie Andrews? Surely not.

Boris Karloff was Dulwich's answer to Bella Lugosi. But there is no sign of him or of his Frankenstein in this corner of London. "We've recently started a heritage plaque scheme and I suppose Boris Karloff would be eligible for that," says a town hall official.

"There's nothing in Kirriemuir about David Niven," says a resident there. "That's because he wasn't born in Kirriemuir. We don't know where he was born. We think it was in London, though we believe he spent some holidays in Kirriemuir." So why do all film encyclopaedias and even *The Times*'s obituary of Niven give his birthplace as Kirriemuir? "It's still a bit of a mystery," says John MacRitchie, Kirriemuir's librarian. "Recent biographies of Niven suggest he was born in London, in Hanover Square."

Ulverston in Lancashire does have a private museum dedicated to Stan Laurel and there is a plaque in Argyle Street outside Laurel's house. But it is a rare and modest burst of British adulation.

At Helensburgh in Scotland, it surprises many people that Deborah Kerr was born there. Mary Bannister, the local librarian, is aware that the star of *The King and I* sprang from Helensburgh, but says there is no memorial there. "I think she left Helensburgh when she was four or five years old. She lived on West King Street. The only plaque in Helensburgh is one commemorating John Logie Baird."



Kerr: surprise that she was born in Scotland



Hope: theatre honour, but it came late in his career



de Havilland: where is the plaque on English soil?

## Jail hunger striker breaks her fast

SARA THORNTON, who is serving a life sentence for the murder of her violent husband and was refused leave to appeal on the grounds of provocation, yesterday broke her fast after a visit from her daughter (Ray Clancy writes).

Ms Thornton, aged 35, accepted a 25p of milk and a tuna sandwich on the 20th day of her hunger strike in Holloway prison, north London, after talking to her daughter Louise, who lives in California. "I feel as if I have come out of a long tunnel. It was the right decision," she said.

A prison doctor, who examined her, said she is unlikely to suffer any side-effects from her strike. She began it after hearing that a man who killed his alcoholic wife had received a two-year suspended sentence.

The Court of Appeal had just rejected arguments on her behalf that her conviction be reduced to manslaughter because she had been provoked into violence by her alcoholic husband. She stabbed him to death with a kitchen knife after a row at their home in Atherstone, Warwickshire.

Mrs Thornton issued a statement saying: "My solicitor has told me that people are weeping over my predicament, crying for me to stop my hunger strike so I can live to see justice done."

## Shell sets off petrol price cuts

Shell cut the price of petrol by 6.4p a gallon from midnight last night. The reduction, equivalent to 1.4p a litre, brings four-star down to 226.8p a gallon (49.9p a litre), unleaded to 210.5p (46.3p) and superplus unleaded to 220p (48.4p).

The announcement is likely to trigger a round of price cuts by leading oil companies. Mobil said it would act to keep its prices competitive and Total indicated that a price cut was imminent, but Texaco said it had no immediate plans to respond although prices were under continual review. Tesco announced a 6.8p a gallon cut in leaded, unleaded and super-unleaded petrol from today.

## Bomb blasts

An army patrol escaped injury in Belfast yesterday when a blast bomb was thrown at them in the Divismore flats area. Early yesterday morning, two churches, houses and shops in Killybegs, Co Londonderry, were badly damaged by an IRA bomb which was detonated in a van next to the police station. No warning was given and no one was injured, but the police station was badly damaged.

## Cell centre

A co-ordinating centre has been opened at Scotland Yard to find police cell space around the country for remand and convicted prisoners as the number needing accommodation each night rose to more than 1,480. The centre, underlining problems in the prison service, matches prisoners needing housing to available cells, which could be many miles from the court where a prisoner is appearing.

## Food fire

Fire swept through a Sainsbury's depot in Basingstoke, Hampshire, yesterday after starting in the roof of a building in which perishable food was refrigerated before being distributed. More than 70 firefighters using breathing apparatus fought the blaze. A Sainsbury spokesman said a contingency plan was being set up in case the building could not be brought back into use immediately.



## Hidden treasures of Stowe see the light

THE National Trust yesterday disclosed its latest discovery at Stowe, in Buckinghamshire, greatest of the 18th-century English landscaped gardens. A cavernous undercroft, unrecorded in the hundreds of descriptions and engravings of the gardens, has been uncovered beneath a temple of Venus.

The temple was built in 1730 to the design of William Kent, father of English landscape gardening, who in Walpole's phrase "first kept the space and saw all nature was a garden". The chamber's purpose is uncertain, though it might have housed a waterwheel or protected the temple from rising damp from a spring.

The trust's £10 million restoration programme of Stowe grounds had its origin in a picnic, when an anonymous donor, saddened by the size of the task of restoring Stowe's domes of temples and follies, offered £2 million. That triggered a £10 million package of grants from the National Heritage Memorial Fund and English Heritage, topped up by a public appeal. Under the direction of the architect

### Restoration of the 18th-century landscaped gardens of Stowe is uncovering surprises. Marcus Binney reports progress

Peter Inskip, restoration of a dozen buildings is complete or nearly so.

The early 19th-century seasons fountain, made from two marble chimney pieces from the house, and the Grinville column (1748) is finished. Work on the temple of friendship by James Gibbs (1739) is nearly complete and is continuing on Kent's temple of ancient virtue (1735).

George Clarke, the former Stowe housemaster who for 25 years fought a lonely battle to prevent Stowe's temples from collapsing, said: "the current restoration programme fulfils all our dreams."

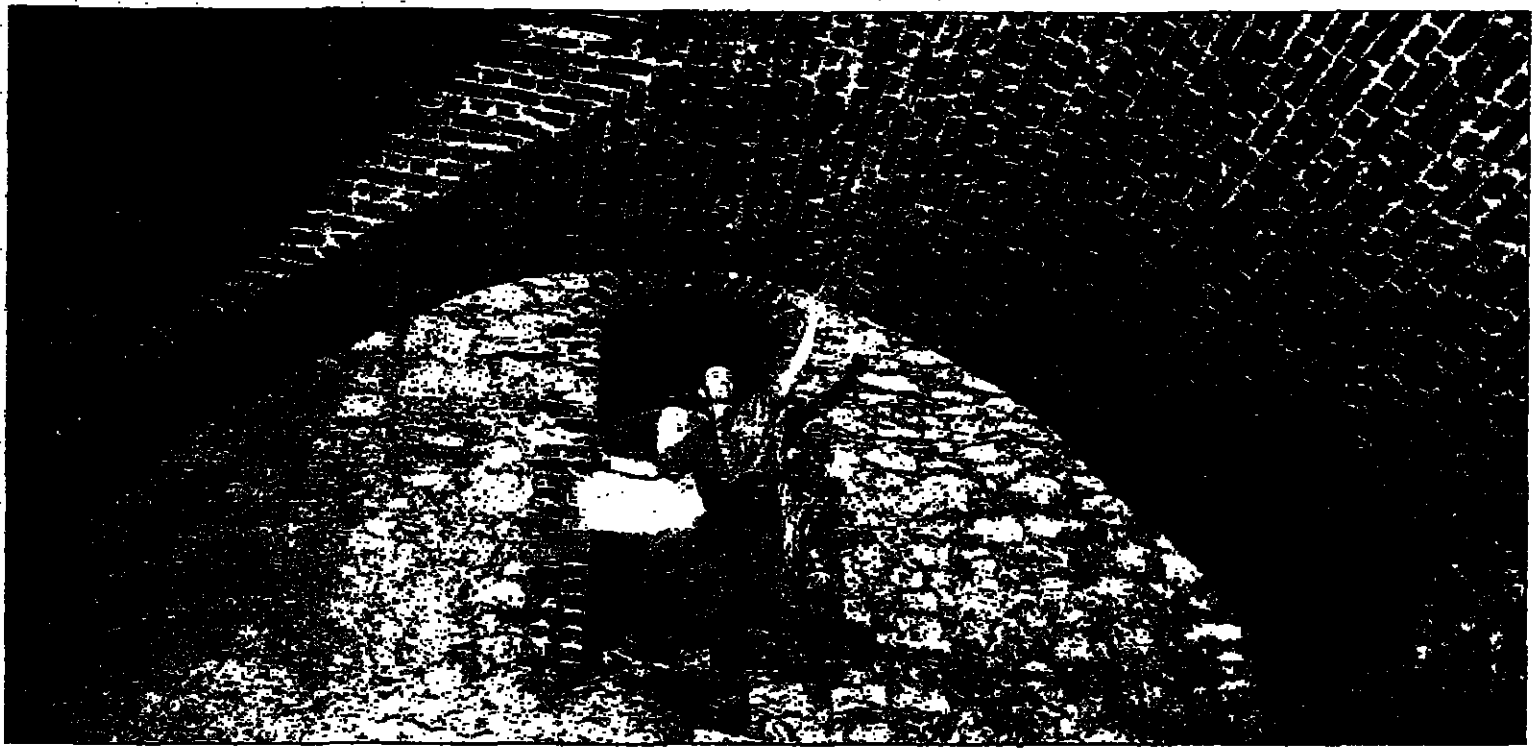
Extensive work has been carried out on Stowe's lakes. "Two years ago policemen on cross-country courses would run straight across the top lake," said Richard

Wheeler, the trust's managing agent. "Now they would find themselves in 12ft of water." The reeds which blocked reflections of Stowe's exquisite Palladian bridge have been removed.

With the copper-bottomed lake - said to have ruined the second Duke of Buckingham, who tried to line it to prevent water leaking out through the porous limestone bottom - the trust used the simpler method of plugging the holes with clay. Some 150,000 tons of sludge were removed.

Conifers that had disfigured the grounds have been uprooted and wood chips from the felled trees used to restore all the paths shown on the old plan. The original yew trees, which suffered badly in recent gales, are being lopped back to give them another hundred years of life.

Research on the Stowe landscape continues. More than 750,000 Stowe documents are on deposit in the Huntingdon library in California, few of which have been studied. The National Trust has been invited to make a systematic search



Unearthed: Frank Thomson, Stowe's head gardener, above, in the undercroft and, below, the Temple of Venus, under which it was found



### Attacker to be held indefinitely

A judge ordered a man who sexually assaulted women at quiet stations on the Tyne and Wear Metro system to be detained indefinitely under the Mental Health Act yesterday.

Jeffrey Khan, aged 21, of South Shields, admitted four charges of indecent assault between December 1990 and January 1991 and asked for five similar charges to be considered at Newcastle crown court.

### Jail for pinch

A patient who pinched a nurse's bottom was jailed for a month at Winchester crown court. Judge Addison told James Henry, of Andover, Hampshire: "This sort of lewd behaviour is all too common in hospital casualty departments."

Henry, aged 25, admitted common assault.

### Beatles on top

A researcher at EMI has found evidence of 1.5 million "missing" sales for the Beatles' *Sergeant Pepper* album. The record company says this brings total sales to four million, a million more than *Dire Straits' Brothers in Arms*.

### Bravery award

RAF Senior Aircraftman Matt Pickard, aged 21, first rescuer to arrive at the scene of the Kegworth air disaster in 1989, has received a Royal Humane Society testimonial certificate for his bravery.

### Raiders held

Unarmed police tackled two men, one carrying a shotgun, after shots were fired during a raid on a bookmakers in Watford, Hertfordshire. The men were later helping police with enquiries.

### Two suspended

Two workers at Kesteven House, a children's home in Stamford, Lincolnshire, have been suspended after allegations of child abuse.

### Bargain in the City is secured

By MARCUS BINNEY ARCHITECTURE CORRESPONDENT

THE City's smallest bargain has been secured by Matthew Saunders, secretary of the Ancient Monuments Society, who yesterday moved into the former vestry hall of St Ann, Blackfriars. The 295 sq ft vestry has cost the society £30,000 to restore in return for a ten-year lease.

Mr Saunders had operated from a room in the tower of St Andrew-by-the-Wardrobe in the City, but when the piles of paperwork hid the telephone, the rector offered to help him to find new premises.

The vestry had for years been used as a store, full of cabbages and cits. It was designed by R. J. Bonner Fletcher, whose *Comparative History of Architecture*, now in its 19th edition, has been the bible for generations of architectural students.

He conceived the facade as a homage to Wren, rather in the manner of one of Wren's almshouses. "While most buildings in the City are of Portland stone, ours is of red brick and Bath stone and cleaning has revealed its beautiful honey colour," said Mr Saunders.

Mr Saunders is no stranger to ecclesiastical preservation. The Friends of Friendless Churches, which he also runs, has recently taken over its twentieth redundant church.

The Ancient Monuments Society, founded in 1924, is one of the six national organisations which all local planning authorities must by law notify of applications to demolish listed buildings. "Well over one is lodged every day of the year," Mr Saunders said.

The vestry stands on the site of the original Blackfriars monastery. In the churchyard behind, a small fragment of its stone walls can be seen.

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### Father's flutter pays off in GCSE stakes

By DAVID TYTLER, EDUCATION EDITOR

AMONG the tears and smiles of the 700,000 teenagers who have just received their GCSE results the broadest grin might have come from Sheila Misra, whose nine A grades won her father £500 for a £30 stake.

Sheila, aged 16, achieved the top grade in all her subjects - mathematics, English, English literature, history, geography, French, double science (which carries two marks) and technology. A pupil at St Albans girls school, Hertfordshire, she will study A-levels in English, mathematics and history with a view to reading law at university. Her father, Mick, placed the bet about six months ago. "She did all the hard work to win me the money so I will give her £100, if not more," he said.

As children visited their schools to receive the results yesterday, King Edward VI voluntary-aided grammar school for girls in Handsworth, Birmingham, claimed a 94 per cent pass rate. Of the 1,055 papers sat, 476 were grade A. There were 52 As in mathematics and only three of the 117 candidates who sat the paper fell below an A, B or C pass. Nineteen girls achieved

nine A grades each. Among the best results reported yesterday were the 11 A grades obtained by Ian Reckless, of Marlborough College, Wiltshire.

Nationally, the results, which showed that for the first time in the GCSE's history more than 49 per cent of candidates achieved the top grades of A to C, were welcomed by the government and teachers' unions. Tim Eggar, the education minister, said: "This year's results show a further improvement across most subjects, building steadily on the examination's successful record. Standards have risen and it seems, too, that there has been a rise in the number of subjects taken by each candidate."

Doug McAvo, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, said the prime minister should drop his plan to cut the 70 per cent coursework allowed in some papers and rely more heavily on examinations. "John Major must not tamper with examinations which are proving a success," he said.

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\*Offer applies to the main Homebase store only and not to franchise operations. Sainsbury's supermarkets and petrol stations. Some centres or Gift Vouchers. To qualify for the 10% off, all purchases must be made in full and in person at the store on 23rd August 1991. Min. but not necessarily all, products have been sold at the marked price (or higher) for at least 28 days within the last 6 months at the majority of our stores. 10% offer applies to all marked prices. 23rd August 1991. Products subject to availability.

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Brooklyn battlefield: police scuffling with a protester, left, during a march in the Crown Heights district after a child was killed in a car accident, and officers in riot gear, right, walk past an overturned police car



## Police protect Jews in New York as black youths run riot

FROM CHARLES BRENNER IN NEW YORK

HUNDREDS of police stood guard in Brooklyn yesterday after mobs of black youths rioted in a third night of violent demonstrations aimed at Orthodox Jewish residents. Two dozen police officers and about 100 people were injured and 90 arrested in the latest flare-up in Crown Heights, a volatile district with a community of 30,000 Hasidic Jews surrounded by poor black housing. The racial violence, which featured chants of "Burn the Jews", has turned into one of the most severe tests for David Dinkins, the mayor, since he took office 20 months ago, promising to heal the ethnic tensions which have racked the city in recent years. The riots, sparked by a car accident on Monday, have been inflamed by anti-Semitic outbursts in recent weeks by several leading New York blacks.

## Albanians expelled by Greece

Ioannina, Greece — Greek authorities have expelled more than 400 Albanians as illegal aliens after a sweep through the island of Corfu and the city of Patras. The Albanians, included Muslims and members of Albania's small ethnic Greek community, with expired visas or no visas at all, according to police. They rounded up 400 Albanians in Corfu, in the west of Greece, while about 30 others were detained in Patras. They were expelled to Albania earlier in the week. Police said busloads of between 120 and 200 Albanians were being driven to the Kavajia border crossing every day. (APF)

## Bandit raids

Islamabad — Bandits killed nine people and kidnapped at least 11 in Pakistan's southern Sindh province, raising the death toll to at least 43 in 12 days. Gangs also stopped buses and robbed passengers near Sakrand. (Reuters)

## Four expelled

Peking — China has expelled four foreign women — two Americans, a Canadian and a Taiwanese — who came to China last week to plead for better treatment for two of the most prominent jailed dissidents, Chen Ziming, aged 39, and Wang Juntao, aged 33, in the second week of hunger strike in jail. (Reuters)

## Mudflow deaths

Manila — Rescuers have recovered five bodies from a house buried by mudslides in the Philippines province of Pampanga, bringing the death toll from floods and volcanic mudflows in the northern Philippines to 31. Monsoon rains had started an avalanche down the slopes of the Mount Pinatubo volcano. (Reuters)

## Flawed ballot

Mexico City — Mexico's mid-term elections at the weekend were marred by ballot-box stuffing, repeat voting and other serious irregularities that threw the ruling party's landslide victory into doubt, observers said. (Reuters)

## Mixed ranks

Delhi — India is reported to be opening the armed forces to women. A defence ministry spokesman said the government is considering proposals to allow women to hold certain non-combat armed services posts. (APF)

## Croatia refuses cash for army

FROM TIM JUDAH AND DESSA TREVISAN IN BELGRADE

CROATIA'S quarrel with the Yugoslav army has worsened with the announcement that the government in Zagreb will no longer contribute to the defence budget.

This comes after a decision to cut off electricity, water and food supplies to barracks in Osijek in eastern Croatia after allegations that the military had actively supported a Serbian militia mortar attack on residential areas of the town.

Ante Babic, a senior adviser to President Tudjman, said that the army had fired at the town from within their barracks. "We don't want a war with the army," said Mr Babic, "but if it comes to it, we will defend ourselves. At the first major confrontation, the army would disintegrate."

Yesterday a Yugoslav jet fired rockets at the village of Srijem, six miles east of Osijek, and at least two other villages came under mortar fire. Two mutilated bodies were reported found in Srijem, the scene of recent heavy fighting, but it was not clear whether they were Serbs or Croats.

The Croats have constantly charged that some army units are out of control and are aiding and arming the Serb militia. This is an accusation which is equally vigorously denied by the federal army. However, while frequently condemning Croat and Slovene "provocations", not one Serb militia unit has been reprimanded.

While the army claims to be a buffer between Serbs and Croats, there is growing evidence that in some areas Serb militia men regard the army as subordinate to themselves. Strangers entering the Serb village of Tenja, near Osijek, have to ask militia men for permission, while soldiers lounge around their tanks.

Journalists who were held up and robbed at a Serb militia stronghold near the town of Kostajnica reported that Yugoslav soldiers looked on without taking any action. Anti-army feeling has begun to spread beyond Slovenia and Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Macedonia have announced they will not allow their recruits to do national service outside the boundaries of their republics. Over the last few days there have been demonstrations in the capitals of both these republics by mothers against an army decision to extend the period of military service by 20 days owing to the Croatia situation.

Disaffection and low morale is also spreading amongst the mainly Serbian officer corps and their families.

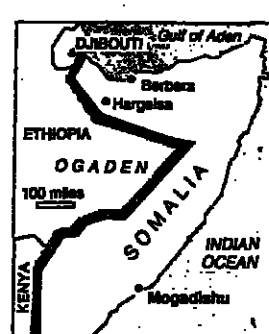
## Somalia's doctors struggle to cope with victims of civil war

FROM TIM DEAGLE IN MOGADISHU

WEARING a torn and bloodstained white coat, stethoscope and tennis shoes, the young doctor stoops next to the grey-haired man and feels for a pulse. Finding none, he throws a thin sheet across the dead man's face, steps gingerly over the large pool of blood and moves on to the next patient on the floor.

It is 7.30am and the emergency room at Dyff hospital in Mogadishu is already filled with the first gunshot casualties of the day. Ferried there by a ragtag collection of rusting and bullet-riddled taxis, cars and buses, the patients are hurriedly carried or dragged into the dimly lit, foul-smelling emergency room. Spattered with blood and littered with used swabs, gauze, syringes and the stained clothing of earlier patients, the room resembles a battlefield casualty station. According to those who work here, that is exactly what it is.

Dr Aweys, deputy director of the hospital, leans against the wall outside the



emergency room and draws deeply on the tenth cigarette of a day that began at 2am with an amputation in one of the two operating theatres in use. "Mogadishu is a battlefield, a war zone and we are right in the middle. We get between 35 and 50 major trauma cases a day, all gunshot wounds. Sometimes we are so busy that we lose many patients before we can get to them. I don't know how many die in that room before we can operate. All I know is that what we are dealing with here is a small fraction of what is happening in Mogadishu. We only see some of the wounded; nobody brings the dead here." The doctors estimate that between 70

and 100 people die from gunshot wounds in the city every 24 hours.

Seven months after the civil war erupted in Somalia, the casualties continue to flood in. Dyff's wards are filled with 500 patients all suffering from gunshot wounds. Most of the city's other functioning hospitals are the same, filled with patients lying strewn across the floor wrapped in blankets; amputees in their wheelchairs or on homemade crutches; burns victims wrapped in bandages. Surrounding each hospital are expanding graveyards with their sporadically appearing mourners and vultures, and the inevitable stench.

There are an estimated 100,000 weapons in this city with a civilian population of perhaps 800,000. At arms bazars all over the city anyone with enough money can buy anything from heavy machineguns and grenades to anti-tank weapons and assault rifles.

Gun battles between rival factions are a daily occurrence and can sometimes turn an area of the city into a battlefield for days at a time.

Looters continue to take advantage of their newfound firepower and thefts accompanied by killing are commonplace. As one cigarette seller explained: "The price of a life in this city now is about a bag of rice, maybe two."

The new government led by Ali Mahdi Muhammad of the United Somali Congress has been promising action for months but, dogged by continual party disunity and hampered by lack of money and manpower, the president has so far been unable to even contain the problem.

Muhammad Jama, Mogadishu's new chief of police who trained in Britain, says he needs an extra 7,000 policemen before he can even try to disarm the city. During the last attempt to relieve some of the population of their weapons, 20 policemen were killed in the ensuing gun battles. "Give me 10,000 trained men and 14 days — then I can bring law and order to this city. Without them?" The chief of police shrugged his shoulders and stubbed his cigarette out in the chipped glass ashtray on his desk.

## Middle East talks back on track for October

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN JERUSALEM

THE proposed Middle East peace conference appeared yesterday to be firmly back on the diplomatic agenda for the autumn after three days of uncertainty caused by the abortive coup attempt in the Soviet Union.

Both Israel and Syria, the two key participants in any regional talks, said they were hopeful that the planned peace talks would take place in October as scheduled, after the restoration of order in the Soviet Union, one of the superpower sponsors of the conference. David Levy, the foreign minister, told reporters that Israel had watched the proceedings in Moscow with anxiety, not only for the fate of the talks but also out of concern for Soviet Jews.

"Israel is most interested in the continuation of the peace process in our region," he said. "We have already gone a considerable way towards this goal and we hope that other governments in our region will also persist in this quest." His appeal appeared to be answered by Farouk al-Sharras, the Syrian foreign minister, who was yesterday meeting President Mubarak of Egypt in Alexandria.

"We believe that the Soviet

Union, one of the conference sponsors, will not be affected by the latest events it has passed through," said Mr al-Sharras. "We also believe that the United States wants to continue its efforts to hold the peace conference."

Syria's muted reaction to the failed overthrow of President Gorbachev was widely praised by Israeli officials and newspaper commentators who regarded the three-day crisis as a litmus test for true Arab attitudes towards the peace process. Although Damascus enjoyed a close relationship with Moscow before the advent of reforms, it none the less did not publicly welcome the attempted coup.

The attitude of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, in particular, has come in for sharp Israeli criticism, and some gloating because their support for the doomed Soviet coup leaders was likened to their backing for Iraq during the Gulf war. "In times of international crisis, the PLO has time and again hurried to align itself against the free world democracy and to reveal its true nature," said Mr Levy. He ridiculed a comment by one Palestinian leader that the coup would redress the

balance of power in world politics.

"What kind of balance are they talking about? A return to the confrontation between two superpowers — the balance of terror," he said. The PLO leadership and Palestinians in general are fearful that the peace talks will be conducted on Washington's terms with Israel's interests put first and with Arab states too weak to prevent a sell-out of Palestinian claims to territory.

The issue of Palestinian representation at the talks has still not been settled, however. James Baker, the US Secretary of State, is expected to make his seventh mission to the region next month in an attempt to resolve the remaining problems. The reinstatement of Mr Gorbachev could well help to smooth his way.

But the mood among Palestinians in the occupied territories was summed up by Fraih Abu Midein, the head of the bar association in the Gaza Strip, who said: "I am very sad and frustrated. This incident will concentrate the US domination... the Soviet people must revolt again in order to be a superpower to compete with the United States."

## Malagasy rebels fail to recruit peasants

FROM GAVIN BELL IN MORAMANGA AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

MORE than 200,000 supporters gathered at a rally in the capital of Moramanga as the opposition resumed its protests against President Ratsiraka, whom it declared this week stripped of all powers.

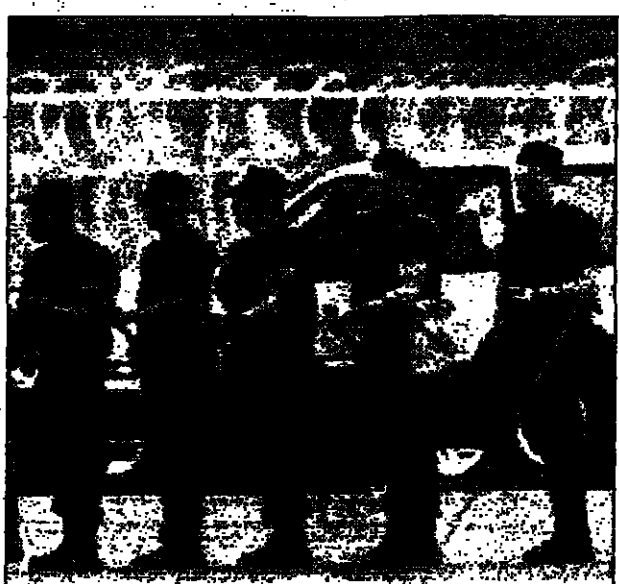
The crowd was far larger than the tens of thousands who usually gather at the central square that has served as the focus of the opposition's campaign to end Mr Ratsiraka's 16-year socialist rule. The six-party opposition coalition named another three ministers to the shadow Cabinet.

The revolutionary fervour gripping Antananarivo has made little impact in rural provinces, where the rice crop is of more immediate concern. The peasants of Moramanga, 70 miles to the east, fired the first shots in a rebellion against French colonial rule in 1947, but they are approaching the latest political upheaval with more caution.

Emmanuel Rakotonirafy, a civic official, says that illiterate peasants are conservative and remain loyal to the beleaguered president. The townspeople have turned out daily to listen to speeches by the opposition Forces Vives (Living Forces), but most have been non-committal.

"They come out of curiosity and they listen... but so far their attitude is to wait and see what happens in the capital. It is not easy to inspire an insurrection among people who depend on subsistence farming for their survival," he said.

Railway and forestry workers have joined a general strike called by the opposition to force Mr Ratsiraka from office, but all other businesses are functioning normally. Speculation that Lieutenant-Colonel Victor Ramahatra, the prime minister, may try to work out a power-sharing deal with opposition leaders who have not joined the Forces Vives seems to be of little concern to people here.



Cell block alert: guards at Talledega jail yesterday

## Smitten Japan breaks gush barrier for Thatcher

Margaret Thatcher appreciation societies seem to be springing up all over Japan these days. After the July cover story in *Bart* magazine in which Nobuhiko Ochiai, a journalist, eulogised Mrs Thatcher as one of the greatest human beings alive today, another exclusive interview hit Japan's newsmagazine yesterday in which Shuichiro Ueyama idolises the "wonderfully gentle and elegant beauty... who looks much younger than her 67 years". (She is 65).

Mrs Thatcher's nickname of "The Iron Lady" is grossly unfair, claims Mr Ueyama. "She is warm and gentle, and when I shook her hand it was wonderfully soft... She is far from the domineering and dictatorial type that some claim," he told the 200,000 readers of *Sapio*, a

Joanna Pitman says Tokyo writers have cast the Iron Lady as a tender beauty

normally respected biweekly current affairs magazine which likes to describe itself as Japan's equivalent of *Time* magazine.

The interview marks Mrs Thatcher's impending visit to Tokyo next month when she will spend a week reminding Japanese businessmen of the virtues of Thatcherism, giving lectures and meeting the favourite clients of her sponsor, NTT, Japan's equivalent of British Telecom. The offices of the Thatcher Foundation will be opened in anticipation of rich

rewards, for when Ronald Reagan visited Japan in 1989 he is rumoured to have received \$12 million from his sponsor, Fujisanki Communications Group for an eight-day lecture tour.

Mr Ueyama is running the "Mrs Thatcher goes to Tokyo project" with Jeffrey Archer, and by all accounts the erstwhile Iron Lady will receive the kind of rapturous welcome more normally reserved for Hollywood beauties. "She is the most respected person in the world. Since Winston Churchill she is the only British politician to have excelled. She is marvellous, heroic, and what's more, she's beautiful," said the besotted Mr Ueyama yesterday in a separate interview.

Japanese businessmen, profoundly impressed with her determination and courage, her "wondrous ability to raise the British economy out of the doldrums and to revive the pride of the British", seldom tire of extolling Thatcherism, and if given the chance will claim the lady is even more attractive than the Mrs Thatcher's coming today.

That was the Avon lady you met yesterday



Princess of Wales. Mrs Thatcher has played her Japanese cards skilfully. Her message to *Sapio* readers says: "Japan is a splendid nation. Its economic might makes it a superpower and it is the world's most successful example of capitalism. But sadly there is a tendency in Britain to criticise Japan as a nation driven by economic imperialism. I have been thinking," she goes on, presumably giving Mr Ueyama one of her warm and gentle smiles, "if Japan were to invest more in Britain and create more jobs, all antipathy would surely disappear."

The mutual back-scratching gushes over three full *Sapio* pages. Mrs Thatcher praises Japanese management and education to the skies, and Mr Ueyama tells her she is astonishingly marvellous.



# Boris's best woman

Galina Starovoitova, the most senior woman in Mr Yeltsin's administration, talks to Kate Muir about her hero, and heroine

Like another well-known Soviet politician, Galina Starovoitova made the mistake of going on holiday this August. As Boris Yeltsin's personal adviser, and a deputy in both the Soviet and Russian parliaments, she thought a few days in London away from the demands of her constituents would give her time to write and think. Instead, Soviet politics followed her.

She first heard about the coup on Monday when a friendly KGB officer rang. He told her it just might be a good idea if she stayed, since her name was on the junta's "first for arrest" list. A day later, she spent two hours with Margaret Thatcher calling a besieged Mr Yeltsin, and rallying Western support for him. From then on she was rarely off our television screens, explaining clearly and simply what was happening, in contrast to obscure "Soviet experts" dug up from British universities who merely floated embarrassingly in their own waffle.

Ms Starovoitova was that red-haired woman, the sort of Lenta-but-larger figure that you saw each day on the BBC news, Channel Four, Sky and Newsnight. But it was her broadcasts on the BBC Russian Service that were most effective, after the opposition Soviet media was gagged. "The only way to contact people was through the BBC and Radio Liberty. I broadcast many times a day, to an audience of up to 50 million people in the Soviet Union. It was fortunate that we could mobilise support here. It was better to be here in a way than standing on the square protesting."

After heading for the Foreign Office to discuss the situation, Ms Starovoitova turned to Mrs Thatcher and persuaded her to head

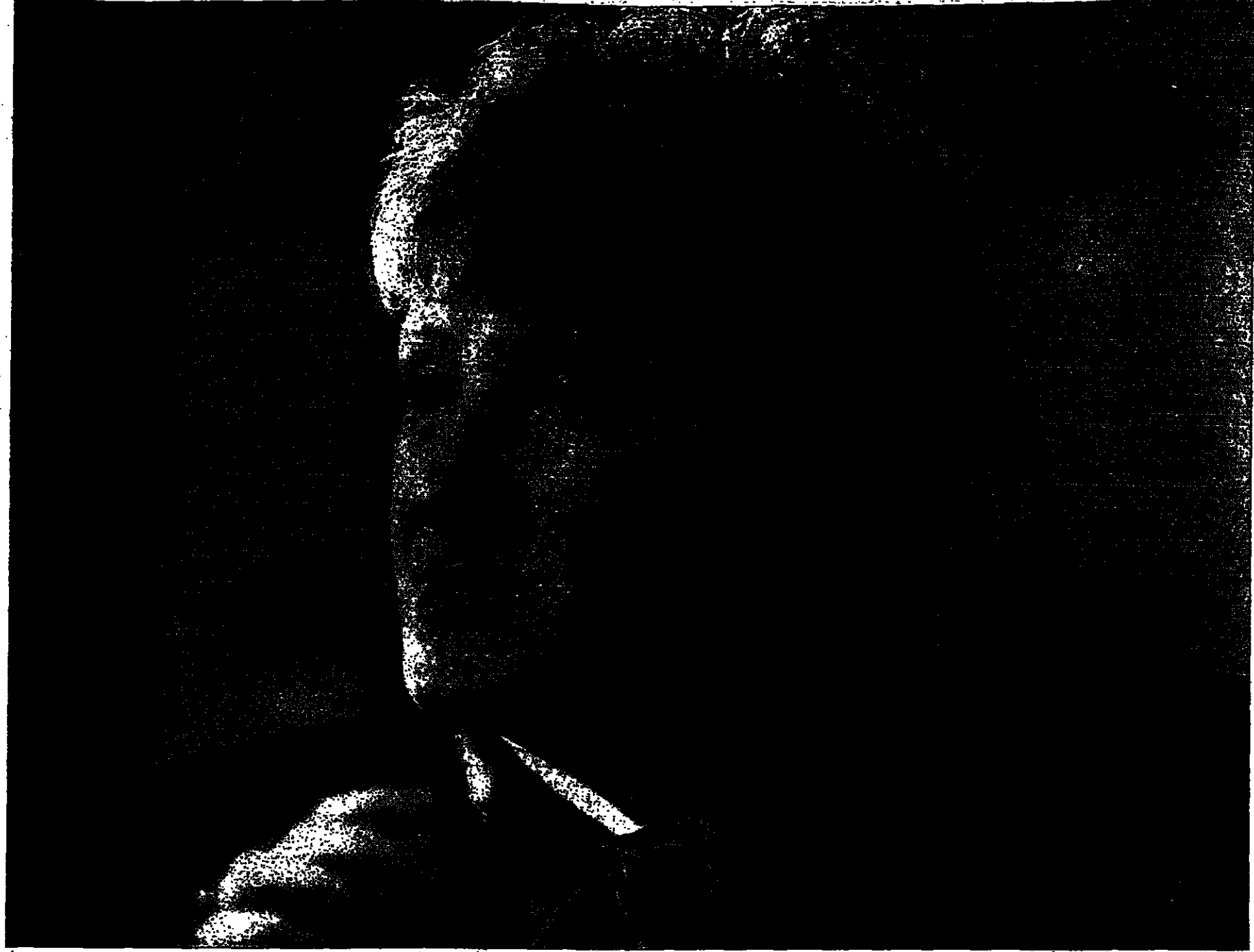
the international commission which was quickly set up to investigate Mr Gorbachev's supposedly ailing health. "Although we knew what was happening, people hadn't quite grasped it in Britain. But Mrs Thatcher was very concerned. She has a very clear and sharp mind and understood immediately and rang Mr Yeltsin to congratulate him on his courage and give her support."

"It was so important. You don't know how really what high esteem Mrs Thatcher is held in in our country. Like the Soviet president," she says, starting to grin, "she is more popular outside her country than in it."

Ms Starovoitova's brusque style has something of Mrs Thatcher. Yesterday, for those who missed it, *The Star* ran the headline: "Iron Lady Galina had the Kremlin Trembling..." and continued, "She's so tough she even put the wind up her pal Gorbachev." She waves the offending article happily. "Your *Star*. Comparing me to her!"

As a radical deputy and member of the Democratic Russia group, she has roundly abused Mr Gorbachev and the weakness of his reforms for some time. Now, watching television footage of Mr Gorbachev getting off the plane, she feels more compassion. "He looks as though he has aged three years in three days. At least it has taught us to be more careful, made us understand that the process of reform was not irreversible."

She believes neither Mr Yeltsin, nor Mr Gorbachev, will be able to find instant solutions to the Soviet Union's economic problems and regional unrest. As Mr Yeltsin's adviser on inter-ethnic relations, and with more than two million constituents in Armenia's disputed Nagorno-Karabakh area, she expects the process of regional sep-



Galina Starovoitova was in London during the coup, and took advantage of her position: "It was better to be here in a way than standing on the square protesting"

aration to accelerate, and envisions "something like your British Commonwealth" eventually. "Although that took 300 years. Perhaps we will find a shorter way."

As for Western aid, not one penny should go to the central Soviet administration. "We must not prolong the agony of the old regime." Aid must be sent direct to the republics, and aimed at specific projects which should be assessed from outside by Western economists. "It is clear the centre is made up of bandits and we shall be very offended if any more money goes to them."

The West will no longer be keen to offend the growing power of Mr Yeltsin, whose post-coup popularity abroad at last mirrors his standing in Russia. Ms Starovoitova backed a winner when she threw her lot in with him two years ago, and decided to stand for

the Soviet parliament in Armenia, and the Russian parliament in Leningrad. Although born 45 years ago in Chelabinsk, in the Urals, and brought up in Leningrad, she won 80 per cent of the votes in Armenia, over four men whose political leafletting she claims, was done by KGB helicopter. She visited the area during the earthquake, and was seen to be fighting very publicly for human rights. Her no-nonsense charm probably comes over better in Russian than in English.

Mr Yeltsin quickly promoted Ms Starovoitova, a former lecturer in sociology and a specialist in ethnic relations, to become his only female adviser. Mr Gorbachev had no women at such a senior level in his administration, and only 5 per cent of the members of the Soviet parliament are women.

Mr Yeltsin, she says, treats her as an equal, but there is a certain gallantry about him. "He is a simple person in some ways. He may not have a very good manner, but he has good, honest feelings, and that shows."

She puts some of that down to the fact that Mr Yeltsin inherited a strong belief in God from his mother, and is no doubt more religious after these last few days. Although he toed the party line for years, she believes he has managed to preserve some moral principles. "I think he has a moral soul, and I do not think Mr Gorbachev has that."

Ms Starovoitova's observations of the Soviet political scene may be with us in more concrete form before long. She is in London because a British publishing house, which she coyly refuses to name, is bidding for her insider's guide to

the Soviet parliament, a book which may well be out of date before it is written. Modestly, she says she has published more than 80 sociology papers, but has had to give up academia temporarily, as politics is too important.

She hands out a fat colour booklet about herself - pictures of Galina with Yeltsin, Galina with Sakharov, Galina at school, Galina's wedding. She wants the booklet back, since it is her final copy, and Mrs Thatcher has requested it. She has thousands more in English back home, she says, as though born to Western-style public relations.

Personal relations are harder. Pressure of work caused the collapse of her marriage. "I could not do both, but we are very good friends." Indeed, her former husband, who now lives in London, is the temporary bookings agent for

her burgeoning media interviews. Her 21-year-old son is also here, having met a Virgin air hostess in Moscow, and married her. Ms Starovoitova has family in Leningrad, too. Her father, the former director of an engineering plant, has just left the Communist party after 50 years and become a democrat. "It was a very hard, deep decision for him to go against everything he had ever known."

Conversion to democracy will be coming thick and fast following the failed coup. Ms Starovoitova hopes at least some will be genuine, and the leadership - whoever it is - does some straight talking.

"We have made so many mistakes because we have not looked at whether decisions were good or evil, just that they sounded appropriate. Now, after 70 years, people are waiting for words of truth."

A year after its launch, is Radio 5 succeeding in luring children away from pop music and television?

Persuading children and teenagers to resist commercial radio stations playing non-stop pop in favour of listening to stories, plays and "youth magazine" programmes was never going to be easy.

Radio 5, which celebrates its first anniversary next week, has won about 120,000 regular listeners aged between four and 15 - far fewer than the 500,000 David Hatch, the managing director of BBC Radio, set last August as the eventual target.

Although the network's young listeners constitute just 4 per cent of its total audience of three million, the recent Cultural Trends Survey hailed the achievement as "the first signs of regular listening by children to radio plays and stories since the end of *Children's Hour* in 1964".

Radio 5 did not intend to rely on nostalgia, however: it has attempted to create a new "radio youth culture", with programming meant to give young people a voice.

Patricia Ewing, Radio 5's controller, said before last August's launch: "I want 13-year-olds to tune in to what their parents would not have even dreamt of suggesting. They are at an age when they want to be independent. They don't want to do what their parents are doing, which is probably watching TV."

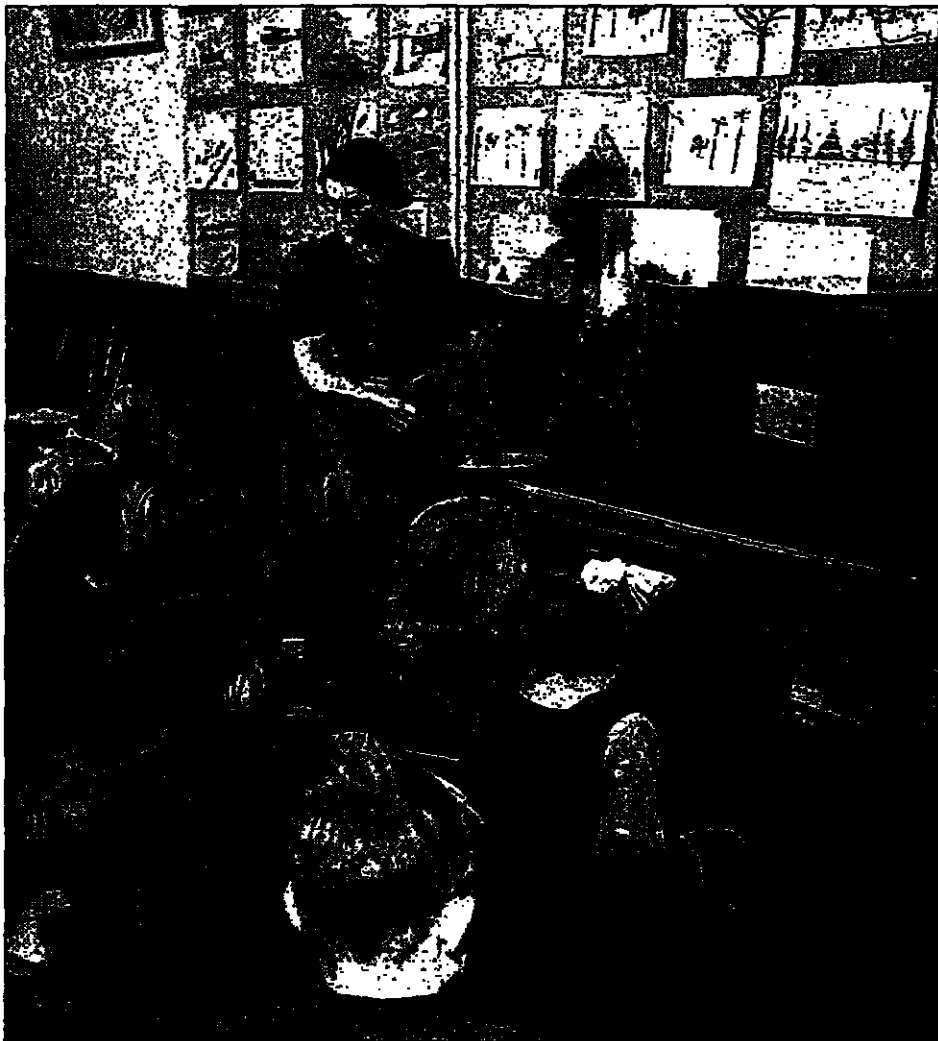
One year on, Ms Ewing's goals are the same. "It's early days yet, but our letterbags and research tell us we're giving young people the type of programming they want. Yes, the majority will continue to gravitate towards *Neighbours*, Radio 1 and commercial pop stations, but I hope that within two years we will be showing a sizeable demand."

Ms Ewing says she would be happy if a quarter of Radio 5's regular listeners were children and young teenagers - 750,000 of a present audience of three million. "I don't know how long it's going to take to get there," she adds.

Radio research pundits remain sceptical. "Those who expect children to listen to speech have a very old-fashioned view," says David Vick, the head of development at the Radio Authority. "There is no evidence whatsoever that children want to listen in any great numbers. It's a nice idea but it's doomed to failure."

The BBC will not reveal the results of audience research it

## Programmed for a return to radio days



Once upon a time: the scene at a BBC story-reading broadcast for the under-fives in 1943

has carried out to assess Radio 5's success with children. But in *The News*, a recent BBC survey of the television, radio and newspaper preferences of 3,000 children from 100 schools, found that 81 per cent of children enjoy listening to pop music. Competitions and quizzes were tied in second place, enjoyed by 46 per cent.

Results varied, however, in different age groups. The under-nines preferred stories (46 per cent) far more than the over-11s (23 per cent). Pop music and interviews with famous people carried more weight with the over-11s (84 per cent and 69 per cent) than with the under-nines (75 per

cent and 33 per cent). Across all age groups, phone-ins are enjoyed by 31 per cent, sports programmes by 35 per cent, news programmes by 30 per cent and plays by 16 per cent.

Caroline Raphael, the editor of drama and features on Radio 5, says: "Of course, it's going to take time to get [children] interested in speech. If you ask children with no experience of children's speech radio what they want to listen to, they will inevitably say music because that's what they know and like. I think they assume speech radio is adult stuff. We're trying to show them an alternative."

Radio 5's content goes a

long way towards making up for speech radio's neglect of the young for more than 30 years. Children, who a year previously got less than an hour of stories a week on Radio 4, now get four hours a day of stories, games and quizzes. More than 10,000 pre-school listeners to the toddler's soap *Wiggly Park* on Andrew Sachs's *1,2,3,4,5* each morning have joined the "Wiggly Park Rangers Club".

Mark Curry's *On Your Mark* every Saturday morning attracts more than 300,000 listeners. "It will be double that by next year," says Sarah McNeill, Radio 5's editor of magazine programmes.

"We're learning how to involve children in the process, letting them participate in making programmes," says Ms McNeill, whose producers have altered output after letters and phone calls from children.

Young listeners wishing to take part in games, quizzes and phone-ins can call Radio 5 from anywhere in the country at local rates using a special number, 0345 909692. The station's frequencies are 909 and 693. "We don't want parents to say, 'You can't do that - it costs money,'" Ms McNeill says. "If they want to take part, we call them back."

Teenagers can listen to a youth magazine programme live each night at 9.30, containing a mix of discussion, comedy and music and coming from a different British city each show.

The *Answerphone* is there each evening to listen and help teenagers with all their problems. This week, phones have not stopped ringing on *The Student Helpline*, an advice programme set up to coincide with A-level results.

Stories coming up for teenagers include *Annie on my Mind*, a radio adaptation of an American novel about two 16-year-old girls who fall in love with each other, which begins next Thursday. It is followed later this season by *Compromised Immunity*, a stage play rewritten for radio about a young Aids patient and his relationship with a male nurse. "We have to tackle issues parents won't. A lot of 16-year-olds wonder about their sexuality," Ms Raphael says.

Seven- to ten-year-olds, meanwhile, will hear *Kiss the Dust*, a drama about the plight of a Kurdish family forced to leave Iraq in 1984, told from the perspective of a 13-year-old girl. *Orphans in Waiting*, a thriller about children caught up in a coup, follows in October.

Even though nine out of ten children say they listen to radio regularly, with more than three-quarters owning their own radios, the children's listening figures for Radio 5 will never be enormous.

"But enough young people have shown in the past year that they want what we are providing. It would be madness for the BBC not to provide it," Ms McNeill says. "No one else will do it."

MELINDA WITTSTOCK



White-knuckle excitement: but most people can tolerate only a few minutes on such rides

## That thrilling feeling

PARENTS looking for an excuse to avoid taking their children on a "white knuckle ride" this bank holiday should seek out the ones with a warning plaque by the admission booth. They can then plead pregnancy or a heart condition as a reason to cry off.

Such warnings have become widespread. Blackpool Pleasure Beach, for instance, has them on the Big Dipper, the Wild Mouse and the Space Invader (a roller coaster in the dark). Alton Towers on the Corkscrew and the Thunder Loop, among others.

Sceptics may wonder whether they are traditional fairground showmanship. Gerald Oliver, the general secretary of the British Association of Leisure Parks, Fairs and Attractions, insists not. "The whole point of any fairground ride is that the danger is perceived rather than actual, but certain individuals may have an enhanced risk. When these rides are designed the manufacturers work out who they would be inappropriate for and no responsible owner would ignore that."

The principle is enshrined in the association's code of safe practice, drawn up in consultation with the Health and Safety Executive, which states that those at risk should be "identified and excluded".

In fact, funfairs seem relatively harmless. An investigation by the Safety and Reli-

Will you enjoy a novel sensory experience this weekend?

ability Directorate, a research organisation, published last year, concluded that people are more at risk travelling to the fair than on the rides. However, Monica Pyman, the head of the national interest entertainment group of the Health and Safety Executive, says: "Warnings are there for a purpose and should be heeded."

"The thrill of a ride comes from the G force it exerts on the body, either along the head to foot axis, as in a roller coaster, or from front to back as in the wall of death type," she says. "The bottom of the dip might produce 3G, followed by near zero [weightlessness] at the peak." A civil aircraft produces about 1.5G on take-off or turning, a fighter plane 8G or even 9G.

"It is going from hyper to hypo G force and back again that produces the excitement," says Dr Alan Benson, the head of the special senses division at the RAF's Institute of Aviation Medicine.

Some rides involve moving the ride in one axis, the rider in another. "If you combine this with head movement you get some bizarre stimuli," Dr

Benson says. "Some people find these novel sensory experiences invigorating, others start retching." Why this should be so remains a mystery. The semi-circular canals of the inner ear are the organs controlling balance but studies of airmen have been unable to identify any differences between those who suffered and those who did not.

Dr Benson thinks anyone with an orthopaedic problem would be advised to stay clear, particularly of rotational types of ride. "Fear and excitement push up the blood pressure, not good for someone with cardiovascular problems."

Sensitivity to motion sickness can be treated. The institute has a desensitisation programme for trainee pilots. However, experiments at the institute and NASA have proved that even the hardest constitution will succumb to nausea sooner or later.

This is the determining factor in the length of rides. Dr Andy Irwin, a consultant engineer, who helped design some of the latest waltzers, says the optimum time for most would be two to three minutes. "Sometimes you get an inexperienced showman who lets it run for five or six minutes. Half the kids get sick and that's the end of them paying for anything else that afternoon."

LIZ GILL  
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GALLERIES: LONDON

# The man who built both Berlins

**John Russell Taylor**  
on Karl Friedrich Schinkel, French  
Drawings at the  
Courtauld, and the  
British Museum

When Berlin celebrated the bicentenary of Karl Friedrich Schinkel's birth in 1981, it also seemed like a deliberate celebration of separatism. Naturally there had to be major exhibitions both sides of the Wall, since Schinkel was above all the architect (both literally and metaphorically) of the way Berlin and neighbouring Potsdam looked. But it so happened, in the arbitrary division of Berlin's art treasures after the war, that most of Schinkel's paintings and stage designs had ended up in the West, and most of the furniture and architectural maquettes in the East. So, two exhibitions there were (overlapping by just a week or two, which meant that visitors had their work cut out to see both), and the two halves of Schinkel's legacy glared at each other across an apparently unbridgeable divide.

Somehow it seems appropriate that the first big exhibition to come to London from a reunited Germany should be devoted to Schinkel, and should at last enable us to see both sides simultaneously. But as the subtitle of the Victoria and Albert's show, "A Universal Man", indicates, it is grossly oversimplifying to suggest that there were only two sides to Schinkel's all-embracing talent. Coming on to the scene at the moment when Neo-Classical style and Romantic sentiment fused together, Schinkel rapidly proved himself a master of both.

His great painting, *A Medieval City on a River*, with a rainbow arching over an unfinished cathedral as a medieval monarch returns in triumph from a campaign, catches absolutely the feeling of "this was it in that dawn to be alive" associated with the Romanticists' first serious re-discovery of the Middle Ages. However, it should be remembered that a companion piece, destroyed in the second world war, showed a Hellenic city like Periclean Athens gleaming in the morning sun. This was much more clearly the source from which Schinkel drew his architectural inspiration for the buildings with which he enriched early 19th century Berlin and turned Potsdam into one of the most glamorous court suburbs in Europe.

The present exhibition documents as many as possible of Schinkel's buildings from photographs: many of the originals disappeared during the war, and some that might have been saved were not, such as the Berlin Cathedral and the Banakademie, demolished in 1953 and 1961 respectively. But since Schinkel was a prolific architect, many buildings remain. And his drawings and engravings of his work combine the architect's sense of structure with the painter's feeling for atmosphere, so that they give a vivid sense of what it was like to be in the buildings at the moment they were completed. The show also contains some of his splendid Neo-Classical furniture:



"A curiously Zoroastrian vision of Pre-Columbian Mexico": a Karl Friedrich Schinkel design for Spontini's opera, *Fernando Cortez* 1818

the chairs may be agonising to sit on, but their outlines are so elegant that it might almost seem worth it.

Then there are the theatrical designs. Probably the most famous, in reproduction at least, is the series for *The Magic Flute* in 1813, with its unforgettable stony dome for the palace of the Queen of the Night. But other series are almost equally thrilling, such as those for Spontini's *Fernando Cortez*, which present a curiously Zoroastrian vision of Pre-Columbian Mexico. These are what Schinkel drew from in-house sources, and the theatre is all about. One suspects that, realised on stage, they would leave the crashing chandelier of *Phantom of the Opera* very much in the shade. Anybody unfamiliar with the extraordinary range and brilliance of Schinkel's art should rush to the V & A for the best possible introduction.

Although in its old, rather

cramped galleries in Bloomsbury, the Courtauld Institute did some times have shows deriving from its own remarkable collections of drawings, only a small proportion of them were ever displayed. In its new quarters in Somerset House, the Institute has its own drawings gallery, on the other side of the entrance from the main galleries that house the major oil paintings.

The first show in this space, drawn from in-house sources, is *Three Hundred Years of French Drawings*. Most come from the Sir Robert Witt bequest, a collection hardly known to the general public and not known much better by scholars. Indeed, many in this show are catalogued and exhibited for the first time.

The only works not owned by the Institute are two Ingres drawings

which were in Samuel Courtauld's original collection, but were left to friends at his death. Some of the pieces on show are highly formal, finished drawings conceived as works in their own right. But many more are informal sketches, offering insights into the work processes of the great, as well as piquant flashes of human and animal observation: Boucher draws a dog standing on its hind legs and Delacroix a sheet of big cats in the menagerie. Géricault sketches men at work or resting, families in repose and soldiers in battle, while Watteau observes two men, one sitting and one leaning, as they gaze intently out of frame. The finished painting epitomises an era, but the drawing catches the moment as it flies.

Any temporary exhibition demands attention and creates its own sense of urgency, but new additions

**KARL FRIEDRICH SCHINKEL:** Victoria and Albert Museum, Cromwell Road, SW7 (071-938 8500). Mon-Sat 10am-6.50pm. Sun 2.30-5.50pm. Until October 27. Sponsored by BMW.

**THREE HUNDRED YEARS OF FRENCH DRAWINGS:** Courtauld Institute Galleries, Somerset House, Strand, WC2 (071-873 2526). Mon-Sat 10am-6pm (Tues 8pm until end of September), Sun 2-6pm. Until October 6. General admission £2.50, concessions £1.

**RAYMOND AND BEVERLY SACKLER GALLERIES/WOLFSON GALLERY:** Early Mesopotamia and Egypt and Africa/Roman Antiquities. British Museum, Great Russell Street, WC1 (071-938 1555). Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2.30-6pm.

**SAND TO CANVAS:** The most striking paintings in this conspectus of contemporary Aboriginal art in Australia are the dot and circle "drawings": symbolic abstractions, formerly made only on desert sands. Songlines: Concourse Gallery, Barbican Arts Centre, EC2 (071-588 9029). Mon-Sat 10am-7.30pm, Sun 12-7.30pm. Until September 4.

**WIDE ANGLE:** Alfred Hind Robinson (1864-1950) pioneered panoramic photography in his spare time from being a Yorkshire JP, and specialised in seaside and sporting scenes. CinemaScope before the fact, his pictures are full of lively observations. Pleasurable Pastimes, Portico, 345 Portobello Road, W10 (081-969 0463). Tues-Thurs 11am-6pm, Fri-Sat 9.30am-6.30pm. Until August 31.

**CAT-CRAZED:** Louis Wain is famous for his obsession (eventually taking him over the edge of madness) with cats. He must have painted thousands of anthropomorphic water colours, so at least there is an unending supply. Louis Wain, Chris Beetles, 8 and 10 Ryder Street, SW1 (071-839 7551). Mon-Sat 10am-6.30pm. Until August 30.

**CAUGHT IN THE ACT:** The people in Martin Grover's paintings are usually doing something innocent no doubt, but inescapably teasing in their mystery. Martin Grover, Merz Contemporary Art, 62 Kenway Road, SW5 (071-244 6008). Mon-Sat 10am-7pm. Until September 21.

RECORDS: ROCK

## Swarm enough for the summer

Rockier than Bananarama but fluffier than the Pretenders, Voice of the Beehive bring refreshing gaiety and a knowing look to their insouciant blend of girly pop. The sleeve artwork of their second album, *Honey Lingers*, is a pastiche of the cover of the first Roxy Music album. Swathed in pink satin, the Beehived sisters Tracey Bryn and Melissa Brooke lie back and think of boys who behave like "Little Gods", boys who are either "Just Like You" or a fantasy vision of "Adonis Blue" and "Beauty to my Eyes".

Much of this romantic piffle is couched in the sort of giggle sixth-form-speaks that is responsible for the risqué pun of the album's title and which throws up lines like "You are the church of love and suddenly I'm feeling holy".

But as well as the exchange of powder-muffin confidences there is also a calculating professionalism at work, rigorously searching out melodies that lock on to the subconscious with the limpet-like tenacity of an Abba tune. "I Think I Love You", with its plonking keyboards and descending chord sequence, could easily be by Abba.

The numbers are short and there are only ten of them. Some, such as the hit single "Monsters and Angels" and the romping "Little Gods", are gorgeous concoctions, but a sweet tooth is needed to swallow it all.

The recording of *The Concert for Bangla Desh*, the epic charity gala organised by George Harrison and Ravi Shankar at Madison Square Garden in 1971, is at last available on a two-disc CD package. With leisurely introductions of songs and personnel, various pauses to tune up and other lengthy delays, the album unfolds at a pace which ears attuned to today's quick-cut culture may find unacceptably slow.

**Voice of the Beehive:** Honey Lingers (London 828258.1). George Harrison, Bob Dylan, Eric Clapton and others: *The Concert for Bangla Desh* (Epic 488835.2)

Yet what an extraordinarily influential and prescient affair it turned out to be. Here was the superstar fraternity — Dylan, Clapton, Starr and Billy Preston among others — going in to bat for a worthy cause 14 years before Live Aid and the frenzy of charitable rocking in the Eighties.

Then there is the incalculable influence on popular tastes of a best-selling album (reaching the top of the UK chart and No 2 in America in 1972), which begins with 17 minutes of traditional sitar music. How many devotees of world music first had their appetites whetted by this recording?

Sadly too, the cause remains no less relevant than it was when the original gesture was made. Proceeds will continue to be channelled (via Unicef) to the blighted people of Bangladesh. The world has moved on in 20 years, but not as much as we like to think.

DAVID SINCLAIR



Voice of the Beehive: a refreshing gaiety

### ROCK NEWS

● Having survived the traditional trial by bottle as the opening act at the Castle Donington headbangers' ball, the Black Crowes are presumably ready for anything, even a British tour: Colston Hall, Bristol (0272 229686) September 24; Aston Villa Leisure Centre (021-328 5577) September 25; Apollo, Manchester (061-273 3775) September 25; Royal Concert Hall, Nottingham (0602 482 626) September 28; Apollo, Oxford (0865 244544) September 29; Town & Country, London NW5 (071-284 0305) September 30; dates continue until October 13 in Portsmouth, Cambridge, Newport, Newcastle, Glasgow, Aberdeen, Edinburgh and Sheffield.

● The Psychodrama Furs play Leicester Polytechnic (0533 555576) October 3; Barrowlands, Glasgow (041-226 4679) October 4; Manchester University (061-275 2930) October 5; Leeds University (0532 439071) October 7; Cardiff University (0222 386421) October 8; Town & Country, London NW5 (071-284 0305) October 9.

GALLERIES: EDINBURGH FESTIVAL

## Quiet life, lyrical achievement

**Andrew Gibbon**  
Williams reviews a  
double show of  
"Scotland's finest"  
watercolourist  
since Melville"

For those who like their artists' lives eventful and bizarre, the Scottish painter William Gillies will not do. As detailed in a new monograph wittily entitled *A Very Still Life* (W. Gordon Smith, published by Atelier), his was dull and undramatic. Gillies was born in 1898, son of the local tobacconist in Haddington, east of Edinburgh. He was old enough to be sent to the French battlefields of the first world war, where he was gassed, returning home to complete his course at Edinburgh College of Art. There was the obligatory sojourn in Paris, followed by a life of teaching at his old college. Gillies lived with his mother, liked cars and died over his lunch in 1973.

Against this scandal-free biography, however, must be set the most homogeneous achievement in Scottish painting this century. Gillies was a lyrical genius. If his quiet, natural art is insufficiently appreciated south of the border, then it is only because canny Scottish collectors such as the obsessive Dr Lillie snapped him up.

After too long a period, an Edinburgh Festival exhibi-



Sparkling watercolour: *Durnish, near Kyle*, by Sir William Gillies (1898-1973)

tion, mounted jointly by the Scottish Gallery and Bourne Fine Art, presents an opportunity to enjoy Gillies' work as *misce* once more. It cannot accurately be called a retrospective because the selection has been too haphazard, but all the qualities which made Gillies such an influential figure in 20th century Scottish art are there.

Gillies was no eclectic in the traditional sense, yet the manners of several post-Impressionist, Ecole de Paris and Expressionist artists inform his pre-war work. Derain's influence is behind two watercolours of trees and ponds painted in the mid-Thirties; Munch can be detected behind others which evoke sky effects; in an oil of Kyleakin he may have been thinking of Dufy, even Léger,

perhaps. As a reviewer in this newspaper perceptively observed at the time, he was "intelligently adapting Continental principles of design to the native impulse".

Gillies' "native impulse", however, was not to be much hindered by fleeting youthful crushes. By the Forties he had begun a series of still lifes which, while depending on the compositional approach of Matisse, show him to be the equal of Braque and Morandi in this field. *Still Life: Apple and Jug* is the finest here.

For some, Gillies' oil still

lives will always lack the spontaneous sparkle and verve found in his watercolour landscapes, of which there are at least a dozen Lothian examples here. A minor masterpiece called *Carrington*, depicting a tree-framed house,

proves Gillies' latest biographer's contention that Scotland has not produced a finer watercolourist since Arthur Melville.

Several distinguished Scottish painters have contributed their reminiscences of Willie Gillies to *A Very Still Life* and all allude to his integrity and typically Lowland charm. What emerges from their comments on him as an artist is that they believe Gillies' humble attitude before his subject, his eschewal of pomposity, and his light, natural facility epitomise the best in the Scottish modern tradition.

Sir William Gillies. The Scottish Gallery, 94 George Street (031-225 5955) and Bourne Fine Art, 4 Dundas Street, Edinburgh (031-557 4050) Both Mon-Fri 10am-6pm, Sat 10am-1pm, until September 4.

## Kept-up keys

THE piano built for Beethoven is to be taken on a European tour next spring. The six-octave mahogany fortepiano was built by the London firm of John Broadwood and Sons in 1817 for Beethoven, and later owned by Liszt, who left it in his will to the Hungarian National Museum. Melvyn Tan will be the soloist for the tour, which will take the instrument to Bonn (Beethoven's birthplace), Vienna and London.

### Kenny can

KENNY Everett is having to learn the tricky art of tap dancing for his West End stage debut. The radio presenter will star as "the billiard marker" in Mike Batt's musical version of Lewis Carroll's *The Hunting of the Snark*, which opens at the Prince Edward Theatre on October 24. Says Everett: "It's the right time to be adding another string to my bow. A man can only introduce 'Da Doo Ron Ron' in so many ways."

### Last chance...

FOREVER known for *Salad Days*, Julian Slade also gave his latest musical a culinary flavour: *Nutmeg and Ginger*. The show features Howard Samuels, nothing up a personal success as the stage-struck apprentice Ralph. *Nutmeg and Ginger* ends on Saturday at the Orange Tree, Richmond (081-940 3633).

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TT 11

SIMPLY A MORE CONVENIENT ALTERNATIVE



## Philip Howard

Guilty about 'he' and  
offended by 'they'?  
Then just write 'ho'!

Double, double, toil and trouble  
with our number these days.  
Getting our singulars in a mud-  
dle with our plurals has always been a  
trap for the careless schoolboy, ever  
since Beethoven was doing his contrabass,  
and long before him. But feminism and the  
wish to purge the language of patriarchy  
have compounded the confusion. We  
can no longer, if we have any linguistic  
tact, use "he" to mean "he or she".

The male no longer embraces the  
female, at any rate in grammar. So we  
end up saying in *The Times*: "If anyone  
says boo to a goose, they are..." And,  
quoting Solzhenitsyn: "We are more  
concerned about the person who breaks  
something. They are always so upset." Any-  
one and person are singular. It  
becomes tedious and obtrusive (a fault  
in grammar, with such inconspicuous  
words) to bang on saying "he or she" all  
the time. So we are turning anyone,  
everyone, and such singular pronouns  
into optional plurals, and they and their  
into optional singulars, to avoid mark-  
ing them for number. This irritates  
purists, because it is wrong.

This is an elementary error, but it is  
happening. Change in society is forcing  
a change in grammar. There is nothing  
immoral in this. Grammar is made for  
man (and woman), not vice versa. And  
it has happened before, without the  
foundations of old England collapsing.

English used to have a singular  
second person pronoun, thou, thee,  
thine, and a plural second person  
pronoun, ye, you, yours. But we turned  
the plural into a possible singular or  
plural without destroying the nation.  
This seems to be the way we are going,  
by turning them and their into an  
optional singular or plural. It is not  
entirely satisfactory, in spite of the  
historical precedent of "you", because  
"they" can be undeniably ambiguous in  
its reference.

Another way out of the word-pit  
would be with an unpronounceable  
makeshift such as s/he, on the analogy  
of the artificial, but established though  
not entirely well-pronounced Ms.  
Amazingly, there does not seem to be  
a single language that has invented a  
common-gender third-person pronoun.  
This need not replace the existing third-  
person pronouns, but would be useful  
when the gender is immaterial.

Mr King's purist answer is that there  
is no problem. You simply say "he or  
she", "him or her", when you feel the  
need to indicate that women are  
included (as need, in his case, not likely  
to be felt often). But this is unduly  
laborious, and draws attention to an  
unimportant little pronoun, unbalanc-  
ing the sentence, and crying "Look at  
me: my grammatical and feminist  
behaviour is impeccable." This is bad  
manners as well as bad grammar.

Another way out, suggested by  
John Sykes, the eminent lexicog-  
rapher and solver of crosswords,  
would be to create out of thin air a  
common-gender third-person pronoun.  
This is not usually the way that language  
works, but we did it with the handle Ms.  
to indicate by the appellation that this is  
a woman but her marital status is im-  
material, in the way that Mr does for  
men. He suggests that *The Times* might  
take the lead with a short-term experi-  
ment in some part of the paper. There  
have been a number of such suggestions,  
but none of them has caught on, and  
they, them, and their are becoming  
singular by default. How about *ho* for  
the subject, *hom* for the object, *has* for  
the possessive, and *homself* for the  
possessive? The reply to this may well  
be "ho ho". But to that I shall simply say  
"he he".

The euphoria of demonstrations is intoxicating, writes Janet Daley, but it is not a political programme

## Bliss upon the barricades



Crowd control: defence of the 'White House' on Tuesday

Mass movements lead them-  
selves perfectly to protest. To  
shout a simple "no" is a credible  
and manageable exercise for a  
mob. But if one falls in love with  
the warmth of the crowd — if the  
experience of collective will hap-  
pens at too impressionable a  
moment in one's life, perhaps —

there is a terrible temptation to  
enlarge the model. This is, I fear,  
what happened to many of my  
contemporaries who came of age  
in the great era of mass protest.

The chemistry of mass move-  
ments is such that it seems to  
obliterate practical problems. In-  
stead of being a transitory instru-

ment of change, the surging  
crowd becomes an ideal political  
condition. Communalism is val-  
ued above individualism. The  
mob itself, in any of its various  
guises ("the workers", "the  
people") becomes the object,  
instead of the agent, of social  
improvement.

For all that the crowd may  
possess by way of affirmative  
camaraderie, it lacks some of the  
distinguishing traits of humanity.  
It can scream "no" with great  
eloquence, but it cannot say "on  
the other hand" or "look at it this  
way". It has no reason, can see no  
shades of difference, can cope  
with no contradictions or am-  
biguities. The politics of the mass  
movement is, at heart, a  
deception.

As Bernard Levin wrote on this  
page yesterday, the Soviet people  
have discovered in themselves a  
capacity for taking hold of their  
own fate. Their moment of bliss  
may feel like a solution in itself,  
but it is no more of one than was  
the ecstasy when Lenin arrived at  
the Finland station. It is the

tragedy of political man that he  
may act in concert with others,  
but then goes on to lead his own  
incurably personal life.

No one begrudges the commu-  
nal triumphalism on the Moscow  
streets, but let us hope that it is  
not mistaken for an end to all the  
troubles. After the street party,  
the problem of dismantling the  
most monolithic corporate state  
in history will remain. The  
system has an inbuilt self-protec-  
tion mechanism, like the com-  
puter HAL in the film 2001.  
Whoever tampers with it risks  
setting off a Doomsday reaction.

Once a comprehensive set of  
economic controls starts to  
unravel, it quickly becomes  
incoherent and self-contradictory.  
It is impossible to introduce  
elements of market logic without  
denying the whole organism.

Even when people demand  
freedom and economic self-deter-  
mination, they do not necessarily  
understand the new behaviour  
and expectations that will be  
required. The demand is an easy  
one for a crowd to make, for it is  
a shout of "no" to repression and  
limitation. Living with the in-  
dividual consequences of private  
responsibility is a longer and  
harder road.

## The humbling of Gorbachev

Boris Yeltsin has a chance to bury  
communism. The president may be  
an early victim, says Mary Dejevsky

President Gorbachev is  
back in the Kremlin;  
most of the conspirators  
are under arrest, and the  
Soviet constitution, such as it is,  
has been restored. With a mere  
nod of gratitude to Boris Yeltsin,  
foreign governments are sending  
their congratulations to Mr  
Gorbachev, as though it were  
possible to start again where  
normal life broke off on Monday.  
Those three days, however,  
have changed irrevocably the  
balance of power in the Soviet  
Union, and in one of their malign  
purposes at least the plotters may  
yet succeed. Throughout yester-  
day, Mr Gorbachev's position  
at the apex of Soviet power  
appeared less and less tenable,  
and despite his best efforts, Soviet  
power itself seemed to fade in and  
out, suggesting imminent  
extinction.

Through no fault of his own,  
Mr Gorbachev has been dimin-  
ished. While he may have accom-  
plished one of the most  
courageous acts of his life in  
choosing captivity rather than  
sanction the use of force to hold  
the Soviet Union together, he was  
invisibly and powerlessly for four  
days. Meanwhile the Russian  
leader, Boris Yeltsin was taking  
on the coup leaders and leading  
the population of Moscow to resist.

Where Mr Gorbachev was  
invisible, Mr Yeltsin was visible.  
His already impressive stature  
grew by the hour. When Mr  
Gorbachev descended the aircraft  
steps yesterday morning, he  
looked small and vulnerable.  
Yeltsin had around him a team  
that proved loyal and solid. In  
retrospect, his choice of a reform-  
minded air-force pilot as his vice-

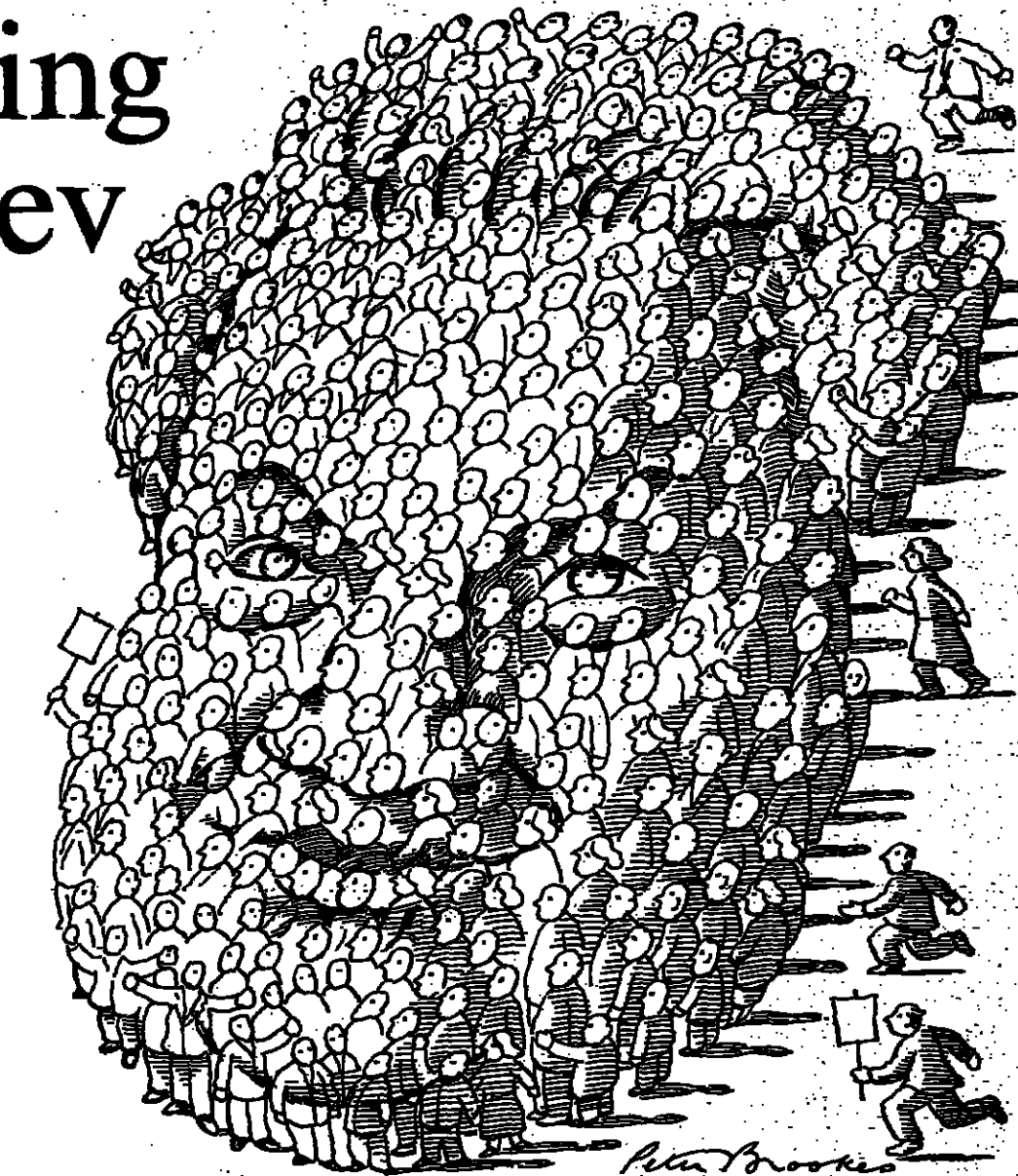
president was a stroke of  
extraordinary anticipation. But  
each senior member of his team,  
performed with singleness of  
purpose. They spoke well, ex-  
pressed shared priorities and  
refused to compromise.

Mr Gorbachev returned from  
the Crimea with his former  
leadership team identified as not  
only treacherous but cowardly.  
For all the evidence of his own  
commitment to democracy, his  
colleagues showed no such scruple.  
Most of those ministers and  
party officials not implicated in  
the coup failed to condemn it  
until it was almost over. Mr  
Gorbachev emerged as a poor  
selector of men.

Clearly he recognised this  
weakness and yesterday he  
moved to build a new team. But  
few will now trust him to choose  
wisely. The shadow hanging over  
his former classmate and chair-  
man of the Soviet parliament,  
Anatoli Lukyanov, only increases  
his isolation. Yesterday, Mr  
Gorbachev's reticence about Mr  
Lukyanov contrasted with the  
simple openness of Yeltsin. "I  
just don't believe him," he was  
quoted as saying after a meeting  
with Mr Lukyanov.

Until now, the edge in real  
power has always been with Mr  
Gorbachev. For all Mr Yeltsin's  
decisive statements, for all the  
impression of action, it was Mr  
Gorbachev who carried the in-  
stitutions of the Soviet state, and  
these underpinned his power.

Mr Gorbachev's presidential  
decrees might have been as little  
observed as those of Mr Yeltsin,  
but it was always Mr Gorbachev  
and the central authorities who  
disposed of the gold and diamond  
reserves, issued or withdrew



money, and dictated foreign pol-  
icy. Mr Gorbachev had the KGB,  
the interior ministry and the  
army. These institutions, espe-  
cially the ministries respon-  
sible for the military industries,  
could be difficult and demanding,  
but this was where power resided.  
Monday's coup showed that Mr  
Gorbachev no longer had these  
institutions on his side.

During the coup, Mr Yeltsin  
passed a series of decrees which  
threaten all the institutions on  
which Mr Gorbachev's power  
once rested. He decreed that all  
institutions on Russian territory,

including the interior ministry,  
KGB and army, had passed into  
Russian control. He decreed that  
all property on Russian territory  
passed into Russian control,  
including property belonging to  
the Communist party, and he  
revoked the right to dismiss all  
officials who had supported the  
coup, at whatever level and in  
whatever sphere. In the past, such  
decrees would have remained  
empty gestures, and on the first  
day of the coup that is how they  
appeared. But as the coup ad-  
vanced with whirlwind speed  
towards its denouement, it be-

came apparent that these decrees  
could and probably would be  
obeyed.

One of the first specific de-  
cisions taken by Mr Yeltsin on  
the basis of these powers was the  
dismissal of the head of Soviet-  
not Russian — state broadcasting,  
Leonid Kravchenko. Yesterday,  
Mr Kravchenko was invisible.  
During the morning, central tele-  
vision seemed rudderless,  
transmitting continuous record-  
ings of music and ballet inter-  
persed with cartoons while  
Russian television was showing  
the victory celebrations.

The transfer may not be final,  
and it may not apply so smoothly  
to other institutions. But the  
splits in the army (including the  
high command), in the KGB and  
the interior ministry (KGB and  
interior ministry officers were  
inside the Russian parliament  
building lending their support)  
means that the loyalty of these  
institutions cannot be relied on.  
That Mr Yeltsin and the Russian  
leadership could also call large  
sections of the workforce out on a  
political strike which offered no  
material benefit illustrated how  
shaky is the centre's hold on its  
own institutions.

Mr Gorbachev now appears  
institutionally isolated as presi-  
dent. Having seen Russia's stand  
and the response of its popula-  
tion, other republics will seize  
their chance.

Having insisted for  
months that he fa-  
voured a strong central  
army and had no in-  
tention of founding a separate  
Russian force, Mr Yeltsin yester-  
day set up a group to draft  
plans for a Russian national  
guard based on the units that  
defended the Russian  
parliament. By his stand against  
the coup, he can take the credit  
for rescuing Mr Gorbachev, al-  
most single-handed. He will now  
be able to dictate his terms for the  
Union Treaty.

Edward Shevardnadze, former  
foreign minister and convert to  
the democratic cause, is waiting  
in the wings. It was he who first  
warned publicly of the risk of a  
hardline coup. He made himself  
visible during the siege at the  
Russian parliament, and he was  
described by Russian speakers  
yesterday as a wise and politically  
gifted leader. One political move  
ahead of his president along this  
year's thorny road, Shevardnadze  
may be a successor of whom  
Gorbachev could be proud.

...and moreover

## ALAN COREN

I had done the easy bit. I had  
dug out the first channel, I  
had laid 20 metres reinforced  
suction hose, PVC, @ £3.95 per  
metre, I had affixed thereto one  
gate-valve, brass @ £5.90. I had  
filled the first channel in, I had  
dug the second channel, parallel,  
I had laid 20 metres 3-core cable,  
rubber, @ £1.20 per metre, I had  
affixed thereto one Duraplug 13-  
amp cable connector, water-  
proof, @ £13.90, one power-  
breaker socket, ditto, @ £24.45,  
and one BWC Multi-Switch  
MS2, @ £32.90. I had filled the  
second channel in, I had made  
good and removed all rubbish  
from site as per mine of the 19th  
inst. I had broken four nails,  
finger, @ considerable personal  
anguish. I had driven back and  
forth to the aquatic centre twice  
and to the cashpoint three times  
and now I had to drive to the  
aquatic centre a third time,  
because I had done the easy bit,  
and the moment had come when  
I had to do the hard bit.

I had to put something on the  
end of all this. I had to buy a  
statue with a hole in it.

This was even harder than  
burying the fish, and that was  
hard enough.

When you have had the same  
fish for 20 years, give or take the  
odd heron raid and cat-snack, a  
bond is forged. From their side,  
mind, that bond is called  
fishbond, but from yours it is  
about seigniorial obligation and  
the love that asks no questions.  
Thus, when a couple of weeks  
ago I returned from holiday to  
find the fish not swimming but  
floating, having popped their

fins *non con* for reasons still  
unknown, proper obsequies were  
called for. You cannot just bung  
them on the compost heap, or  
bury them any old where to have  
their tiny spines reappearing like  
Banquo every time the gerani-  
ums have to be taken up, and  
I had to find a last resting-place,  
preferably one near a rustic  
bench where you can sit and  
stare at it, reflecting that the days  
of fish are but as grass.

So I did that, and then I  
drained the pond; for life must  
go on, but it was patently not  
going to go on in the pond as it  
stood, you had only to look at it,  
never mind point the nostril; the  
Creature from the Black Lagoon  
wouldn't last five minutes in it.  
After I had drained it, I went to  
see my friend at the aquatic  
centre for new weed, snails,  
lilies, fish, all that, and my friend  
said what's all this about, then,  
and after I had told him, he dried  
his mouth and remarked, "I've  
said it before, and I'll say it  
again, what you need is an  
ornamental fountain. Oxygenates  
the water, you can go on  
holiday with a clear conscience,  
also makes a wonderful feature,  
a conversation piece, plus this  
very nice trickling sound, it gives  
you a different class of pond  
altogether."

At which juncture, he slid  
expertly aside to allow me to  
take in the serried concrete ranks  
behind him.

"We have the biggest range  
there is," he said, "we have the  
Cherub Trio, we have the Lotus  
Flower, we have the Frog, we  
have the Goose Boy plus up to

four Geese, we have the Boy on  
Dolpin, Loriel, Noble, we have  
the Mermaid, either Topless or  
With Tresses, we have the  
Leaping Frog, the Lillypad  
and Frog, we have Peter Pan, or  
there's the Brussels Boy for the  
lighter touch, it comes out of his  
thingy, possibly not to every-  
one's taste, but a very popular  
line, we have the basic Buddha  
and also Ho Tai the Laughing  
Buddha, we have..."

"It's hard to say as it were, you  
know, see them in situ," I said.  
"Tell you what," he said, "lay  
all the services, it'll give you a bit  
of time to think, then come back  
when you've decided."

So I did all that, except decide.  
It is not easy, staring at a  
Cricklewood garden and won-  
dering whether it is better suited  
to a Jolly Turtle or a Cherub  
Trio. You can become fountain-  
drunk, you can find visions  
siding into your head of a  
Versailles restocked with four  
hundred Brussels Boys all peeing  
at one another.

But I did the hard thing at last.  
I bought Ho Tai the Laughing  
Buddha @ £62.50. I fitted him  
up to the twin services, and I  
filled the pond, and I switched  
him on. But the water did not  
gush out of his mouth it gushed  
out of his ear.

At the time of writing, I still  
haven't decided whether to un-  
bolt him again and fiddle with  
him. Whatever else he is, you  
would, if you saw him, have to  
admit he is a conversation piece.  
Nobody looking at him would be  
able to resist asking why the hell  
he is laughing.

## Tanks that think

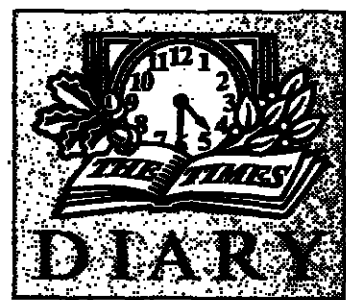
THE free-market gurus and think-  
tanks that helped redraw the eco-  
nomic map of Britain during the  
1980s are planning an ideological  
invasion of the Soviet Union, in  
the belief that the failed coup has  
rendered the empire ripe for a  
dose of Thatcherism. Although  
their influence may have dimmed  
at home, the Thatcherites believe  
that the events of the  
last few days have created the per-  
fect new laboratory to test their  
ideas.

Lord Harris of High Cross,  
founder of the Institute of Eco-  
nomic Affairs, flies to Moscow  
next month to preside over the  
first of a series of monthly lunches  
between Western free-marketers  
and Soviet economists. "We criti-  
cised Gorbachev in the past for  
not reforming fast enough. Now  
the pace will be accelerated and  
our think-tanks can play a key  
role," he says.

A number of such groups al-  
ready flourish in the shadow of  
the Kremlin, including the Inter-  
national Centre for Research into  
Economic Transformation, which  
Harris helped to establish earlier  
this year. Its director is Konstan-  
tin Kagalovsky, a close associate  
of Boris Yeltsin, who held talks  
with the prime minister at  
Downing Street on Wednesday.

The Bruges Group, which is al-  
ready opening offices in Warsaw  
and Prague, is also hoping to move  
in. The Thatcher Foundation, too,  
plans a Moscow office, and Sir  
Alan Walters, already an un-  
official adviser to Boris Yeltsin,  
will be hoping to increase his  
influence.

The Adam Smith Institute is  
another involved in the export  
drive. Dr Eamonn Butler, its  
director, says: "We will be devel-



oping our connections with a  
number of fledgling groups, in-  
cluding those in the Baltic states. We  
think we can help the privatisation  
process." But even Yeltsin may  
not yet be ready for the institute's  
other great invention. A Soviet  
poll tax is probably the only thing  
that could make Muscovites long  
for the return of the junta.

What is the Russian equivalent  
of "Sticks and stones"? "If Gorbachev  
has not heard the old adage  
about words never hurting, his new  
relationship with his saviour Boris  
Yeltsin already looks doomed.  
Only six months ago, Yeltsin was  
complaining that Gorbachev had a  
character flaw which "predisposed  
him to seek personal power and  
dictatorship". At the same time  
Yeltsin admitted to one mistake in  
his attitude to Gorbachev: he had  
"trusted him too much". The grim-  
faced coup leaders were benign by  
comparison. The only direct criti-  
cism they dared offer was to de-  
clare that Gorbachev's policies of  
reform had "come to a dead end".

## Voice of Russia

FOR years the Soviets jammed it,  
but yesterday the Russian service  
of the BBC received the highest  
possible accolade. After his brief  
incarceration, President Gorbachev  
declared it the best radio sta-  
tion on the airwaves. An under-

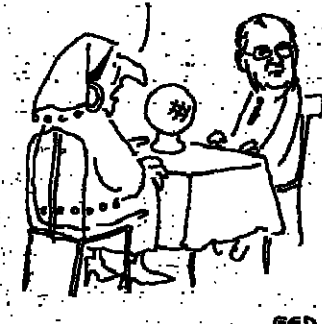
standably excited David Morton,  
head of the service, says: "It is  
phenomenal. It vindicates every-  
thing we have stood for in the last  
30 years." To be fair, Voice of  
America also got a favourable  
mention, though not quite the  
same praise was lavished. And  
how did CNN, the American news  
channel, translate this in its live  
transmission? They omitted all  
mention of the BBC completely,  
of course.

## You read it here

LIFE imitates art, or is it the other  
way around? A radical leader is  
ousting in a coup by communis-  
tardiness and placed under house  
arrest for "betraying" the Soviet  
Union. The coup falls within days.  
The leader is restored, and one  
member of the cabal kills himself.  
Remarkably it is the plot for *The  
Last Defector*, a spy novel to be  
published next Thursday.

Its author, Tony Cape, says that  
spy novels, after faltering when the

Read Tony Cape



Cold War came to an end, are back  
in vogue. "The events of the last  
few days could have come straight  
from the pages of fiction, except,  
some would say, that the Moscow  
coup is too far-fetched for a

novel". Cape's next book is about  
an attempt to bring down the Brit-  
ish government. He declines to di-  
vulge the plot, but with his record  
for accuracy, John Major could be  
forgiven more than a passing in-  
terest in the denouement.

Are the leaders of the Soviet coup  
a bunch of bastards, or simply  
scoundrels? Newspapers, television  
and radio were divided yesterday  
on the translation of the Russian  
defence minister's description of  
the failed committee. Experts say  
the word used by General Konstan-  
tin Kobets "shpani" is street slang  
for "scum". Unpleasant, perhaps,  
but curiously appropriate — some-  
thing nasty that rises to the top  
but which can be floated off with  
considerable ease.

## Essex man says

WHILE the Kremlin coup caught  
most Western observers un-  
aware, its sudden and dramatic  
collapse wrong-footed the com-  
mentators in even greater num-  
bers. For most of Monday and  
Tuesday, apocalyptic visions were  
paraded in both East and West.  
Edward Shevardnadze thought it  
meant the return of the Cold War.  
Casper Weinberger, the former US  
defence secretary, warned Western  
nations to start rearming, pre-  
dicting a long period of "major  
instability".

A few of the wittier commen-  
tators hedged. But only one seems  
from the outset to have made  
the bold prediction that the coup  
would not outlast the week.

At 9.25 am on Monday, just  
five hours after news of the coup  
had broken, a lone voice could be  
heard on ITN telling those who  
could listen: "I think it is quite  
possible that even within a matter  
of hours this coup could actually  
crumble and disintegrate." Quite  
right, Peter Frank, lecturer in Soviet  
studies at Essex University.

هكذا امتنا اصل





## PURGING THE UNION

If one message emerged from President Gorbachev's extraordinary press conference yesterday it was that the struggle for power within the Soviet Union is not over. It is just beginning. This remarkable man, clearly determined to upstage Boris Yeltsin's victory the previous day, has lost none of his guile. His tale of his capture was moving. His programme for the future had a depressingly old-world quality to it. While he rambled on about the continued need for perestroika and socialism, crowds outside the Kremlin and across the Soviet Union were celebrating what they thought was the advent of a truly new dawn. There was no sign of that dawn from Mr Gorbachev.

Everything now hinges on two events: the renegotiation of the Union treaty and Mr Gorbachev's purge of the upper reaches of his administration. These are integrally related. There may be no going back on political freedoms, but enemies of those freedoms will remain in place as long as there exists in Moscow a central communist-military bureaucracy resisting devolution to the republics. The removal of that bureaucracy is essential for devolution to be real.

Now is the moment for ruthlessness. Together with the leaders of the republics, who will wield real power in the Federation Council he chairs, Mr Gorbachev must show himself prepared to dismantle the old centres of power and privilege. A purge must extend far beyond replacing "hardliners" with reformers. That has happened time and again under Mr Gorbachev: more often, the reformers have resigned in despair.

The Union treaty should be redrafted to render the centre redundant in all but a limited range of regulatory functions. The web of administrative controls entrenched in more than 60 Union-wide ministries, bureaux, commissions and state committees is what stifles economic freedom — far more intensely than the presence of reactionaries in top jobs. Some functions will devolve to the republics. Others, including the vast machinery for deciding what is produced where, at what price and with what materials, can and must be dissolved entirely.

The lesson of the past five years is that communism cannot simply be reorganised. Perestroika under Mr Gorbachev meant moving the same pieces about on the board. The result has been a chaotic halfway house between a command economy and a market. The root of the Soviet Union's "ungovernability", which the plotters implausibly promised to remedy, was that a governing

apparatus created to maximise state control was doing it badly, as well as being used by the *Nomenklatura* as a tool of plunder.

A new treaty must recognise that whatever the long-term destiny of the Soviet Union, economic recovery is impossible without monetary discipline and clearly defined powers of taxation, a single market to end the trade wars between the republics and unambiguous property rights. There remains a role for the centre. A federal bank is needed to control money supply, which has spun out of control in the confrontation between Moscow and the republics. Finance and defence ministries and an accountable federal police service will be required, at least for the time being. The scope for military and financial instability in the present Soviet Union is considerable.

The key indicator of Mr Gorbachev's commitment to reform will lie in his handling of private property. His bloated ministry of industry must be stripped of responsibility for production and charged with ensuring that the Soviet Union's decrepit productive potential is transferred to the private sector, whether or not through the medium of the republic governments. Property must be protected in private hands, not merely transferred to a new breed of public apparatchiks eager for spoil.

The Soviet Union is ripe for the greatest exercise in privatisation the world has ever seen, privatisation of property, stock, money, risk capital, housing and the human rights of employment and professional freedom. This must be enshrined in the Union treaty. It should transcend republic rights and form Moscow's last ideological legacy to peoples so long corralled into its empire.

The task facing a chief executive of "Soviet Union Inc" is mammoth not because that entity is inherently ungovernable or inherently poor — though under communism it has proved to be both. The task is that of taking a huge government machine and showing that it is no longer needed. Mr Gorbachev rarely showed that he understood this point before the coup. He showed little sign of understanding it yesterday. Unless he truly believes that the private sector is the way forward, he will not be able to help the republics meet the challenge of rising prices, mass unemployment, labour unrest and popular discontent. Since this responsibility must now be theirs, he could become as big an impediment to perestroika as, he claims, were his erstwhile enemies.

## GOING THEIR OWN WAY

Wednesday's victory for President Yeltsin's democratic forces in Moscow will also shape the destiny of the Baltic states. For Boris Yeltsin, the basis of the "nine-plus-one" process since April has been that each republic should sign the new Union treaty voluntarily, or else go its own way. Now that Mr Yeltsin has the whip-hand, an end may be in sight to Mr Gorbachev's long struggle against Baltic aspirations. Britain should now be moving towards recognition.

This week Latvia and Estonia, which have likewise suffered deaths or injuries in the cause of self-determination, grasped the fleeting moment of the aborted coup to claim their independence. All three republics have now done so.

From a juridical standpoint, there should be even fewer objections to recognition of the Baltic states than of other republics. Today is the anniversary of the infamous Ribbentrop-Molotov pact, in a secret protocol of which the fate of Poland and the Baltic states was sealed. The Soviet presence in the Baltic states is, and always was, illegal. Britain, like several other Western countries, has never formally recognised Soviet occupation. John Major alluded to this fact yesterday, but played it down by advising the Baltics "to negotiate within the Union treaty with the Soviet Union".

The Baltics' refusal to sign this treaty is, to them, the heart of the matter. For these republics now to sign, in order to follow its procedure for leaving the Soviet Union, would finally mean recognition of their incorporation by force.

There are practical obstacles to immediate recognition; the one that matters most is the attitude of the Soviet president. In his press conference yesterday, Mr Gorbachev made a

single cryptic comment, that the Baltic leaders were "politically blind". His planned meeting with the Baltic leadership today may reveal some genuinely new thinking. It is for Mr Gorbachev and his now more than usually docile Supreme Soviet to send a clear signal, not merely that they have ceased to coerce the Baltic peoples, but that they, like Mr Yeltsin, are ready to negotiate their independence. Once that is done, an orderly withdrawal of Soviet forces can begin.

The next stage should be treaties between all three republics and the Soviet Union, governing trade and bilateral relations. The latter will be less important than the Baltic states' relationship with the Russian Federation, which in future will largely run its own economy. Mr Yeltsin will want to be reassured about the large Russian minorities in all three republics. In their own interests, the Baltic nations should offer any reasonable constitutional guarantees for these minorities, which mostly supported independence in the recent referendums.

President Landsbergis of Lithuania yesterday appealed to the West not to delay moves towards recognition. Denmark has promised to open full diplomatic relations with Latvia as soon as it is practically possible. Britain should declare forthwith an intention to recognise all three Baltic states as soon as treaties with the Kremlin are agreed. But Mr Major should also make it clear that if the Soviet authorities resist this process, recognition would take place anyway. Such declarations of intent would hasten the acquiescence of the Soviet government in the inevitable outcome. The Baltic states have earned the right to be the first republics to leave the Soviet Union.

## ALL IN THE GENES

Scientists at the human gene-mapping workshop which ended in London yesterday were given a salutary warning by Baroness Warnock that the moral issues arising from their human genome project cannot be ignored. With advances in genetic mapping and engineering, some "programs" determining human health and behaviour can now be detected and even altered. But whether and to what extent should scientists take such godlike power? If they did, what abuses might it lead to?

If electronics was the science of the past two decades, biotechnology is becoming the discipline of the next two. The gene-mappers have now identified 2,500 human genes, around 5 per cent of the total, and hope to have a complete map in 15 years. Already it is known that genes play a large role in obesity, alcoholism, cancer, heart disease, premature senility and even religious belief — where identical twins in different families have similar attitudes.

Genetic engineering has produced cheddar cheese that matures fully in a month, and giant mice, twice normal size. Gene transplants, used for the first time earlier this year on a four-year-old girl with barely any immune system, have allowed her to leave home and to take skating and dancing lessons. Normal life may become possible.

This form of gene therapy is no different, morally, from conventional medicine. But if a defective gene is isolated and a healthy gene added at the embryo stage, the new gene will form part of that person's genetic make-up and will be handed down through successive generations. If it gave the baby a "high chance" of becoming a champion sprinter or a genius, the charge of "playing God" would be hard to deflect.

Moral dilemmas arise too from the implications of genetic screening. Once the genome project has identified all human genes, it will swiftly become possible to analyse an individual's genetic make-up. But some people may not want to know that they are likely to become senile in their fifties. And will employers or insurance companies be allowed to insist on seeing a genetic profile of an applicant?

Genetic research is undoubtedly worthwhile. It is likely to lead to stunning advances in the prevention and cure of disease. But Baroness Warnock is right to warn that, like most scientific discoveries, it poses ethical problems which eventually will need a legislative framework. It is time for a Warnock committee mark II to mull over the moral dilemmas and give guidance to the lawmakers.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

### Wary eyes on east Thames corridor

From Mr Jacques A. Arnold, MP for Gravesham (Conservative)

Sir, Broad generalisations in planning matters can cause untold misery. In the current furor over the proposed east Thames corridor just such generalisations are apparent, including one of your leader of August 20: "Much of north Kent is charmless..."

Within the target area of north Kent in Gravesham lie the largely unspoilt villages of Higham, Shoreham and Cobham. They were saved by the metropolitan green belt and their charm was immortalised by Charles Dickens. The beautiful countryside surrounding them is the only green barrier remaining between London and the Medway towns and it must be preserved at all costs.

There are, it is true, still areas of dereliction resulting from exhausted heavy industry and quarrying, some of it "brown land" within the green belt and most of it in Dartford. These could benefit from redevelopment in a sensitive manner, but most of the undeveloped land is still green, in every sense of the word.

The Channel tunnel high-speed rail link through north-west Kent is irrelevant to any "Heseltineville": it is a two-track, high-speed, passenger-only project, with no local stations proposed. As such its passage through the area should be as unobtrusive as possible, in order to cause minimum disturbance to the local environment. A rapid announcement of the route would also help to eliminate the current widespread blight, arising from the four identified routes which cross Gravesham.

Your leader's declaration that "No stretch of the estuary wants to see a ribbon of Thamesmeads, a chain of Carbuncles-on-Thames where now is virgin land" is strongly echoed in Gravesham.

Local MPs are more than "at best tepid". We are determined to fight for our local environment. Political pressure in Kent is no less determined than in strongholds west of London — in Oxfordshire (including Henley), Berkshire and Hampshire.

Yours faithfully, JACQUES ARNOLD, House of Commons, August 20.

From Dr Nigel D. Haig  
Sir, Mr Heseltine's plan for a "linear city" from London to the Kent coast across metropolitan green belt, would require rather more transport infrastructure to be constructed than

### In defence of A-level status quo

From the Chairman of the Headmasters' Conference

Sir, Your confused and confusing leader, "A failed examination" (August 15), muddled three quite separate issues — the decline in mathematics and science, the narrowness of the three A-level pattern in English sixth-form education, and the status and role of vocational education. The letters which you published on August 19 did little to clarify this confusion.

The fall in numbers studying mathematics and science beyond GCSE can be attributed directly to the lack of properly qualified teachers in these subjects. No amount of "compulsion" beyond 16 will change that. Recruiting more and better science and mathematics teachers might.

You confuse vocational with scientific and technical education and seem to deride all three. European countries are much clearer in their thinking and have established quite distinct and well defined schemes of vocational education, which may lead to a degree or other qualification, or to employment.

If vocational education is to be properly established here, we should do the same. Last year 10,000 students entered universities via B Tech — the vocational route. We need to ensure that those for whom a degree is inappropriate have a proper career path to follow. They will possibly be "less gifted", almost certainly "less academic", but they ought to receive a decent and appropriate education.

Your comment on the nature of A levels does less than justice to what is going on in sixth forms. Three A levels should occupy about two thirds of a student's time, and it is a very poor school or college which denies its students access to a broad range of studies.

It is quite possible now, using A and AS levels, to study five examined subjects, or to combine A levels with Scottish Highers or with a

Yours faithfully, GRAHAM WYNNE (Director of conservation), The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, The Lodge, Sandy, Bedfordshire, August 21.

From Mr Gerard M. Blair  
Sir, Considering the greenhouse effect upon the coastline of Britain, is Mr Heseltine intending to build the Venice of the East End?

Yours sincerely, GERARD M. BLAIR, 60 Raeburn Place, Edinburgh 4, August 19.

### Miscarriages of justice

From Sir Frederick Lawton

Sir, Mr Ludovic Kennedy has spilt a sensible suggestion for strengthening the jurisdiction of the Criminal Division of the Court of Appeal ("Rarely seen to be undone", August 19) by making scurrilous and inaccurate attacks on named judges, one of whom is dead. He knows, or should know, that by convention they cannot answer back in respect of cases on which they sat.

As one of those who is alleged to have turned a blind eye to convincing evidence which I heard and he probably did not, without trying to justify what I decided, I feel entitled to point out that the evidence which led to the quashing of the convictions in the Guildford and Birmingham cases was never before the Court of Appeal when those cases

first went there and I was sitting. His attacks upon the judges of the Court of Appeal would be more convincing if he knew more about what that court can and cannot do. He made the following statement in his article:

"Since the judges of the appeal court have taken it on themselves to make a judgment on the facts, instead of asking themselves what verdict the trial jury might have reached had it been able to assess the old and new evidence together..."

From 1908 until 1974 the appeal judges did just what he thinks they should do. The House of Lords then told them to stop speculating and make up their own minds about the new evidence.

Yours truly, FREDERICK LAWTON, 1 The Village, Skelton, York, August 19.

### On the other foot

From Mrs M. E. Davies

Sir, Is it any wonder the children of today become so selfish and self-centred when parents pander to their demands for designer trainers and the like ("When the shoe is on the other foot", Life and Times, August 21)? By doing this are they not destroying children's will to achieve things by their own means?

My children have learnt from a very early age that there is no way that I would provide all these expensive and unnecessary items. So if they have wanted them that badly they have had to go out into the big wide world and earn the money themselves.

Then perhaps after they have earned and saved the required amount they might think twice about spending as much as £80 on one pair of trainers.

Yours faithfully, M. E. DAVIES, Arbory Cottage, Stoke Green, Stoke Poges, Buckinghamshire, August 21.

### 'Oldest inhabited'

From Mr A. Leicester Taylor

Sir, I was interested to read John Young's excellent article (August 13) on Little Dean Hall being the country's "oldest inhabited building".

The country has around half a million listed buildings, some in excellent state, some not so, but two of the earliest houses still lived in today are in Lincolnshire, like the Jews House at Lincoln, mentioned by John Young.

Great Hemmingsford Manor and Boothby Pagnell Manor have been hidden away in the fens since before the Conquest and are almost unspoilt, outwardly and inwardly.

Great Hemmingsford really is unique: the hall and solar are still in situ, and are still furnished. Yours faithfully, A. LEICESTER TAYLOR, 94 Henfield Close, St Johns Way, Highgate Hill, N19, August 13.

### Sugar consumption

From Dr Janice I. Harland

Sir, In your report "Nutritionists seek laws to promote healthy diet" (August 9 early edition), Dr Sheila Bingham of the Dunn Clinical Nutrition Centre, Cambridge, is quoted as saying that "to achieve some of the government's dietary goals by 2005, consumption of biscuits, cakes, puddings, chips, crisps and chocolate would need to be halved, as would consumption of soft drinks and table sugars".

Dr Bingham has not interpreted the guidelines accurately. In fact, the recommendation for sugar requires higher consumers to reduce by a percentage point or two; or in terms of teaspoons, about two or three — certainly nothing as drastic as Dr Bingham suggests.

Yours faithfully, JANICE HARLAND (Director), The Sugar Bureau, Duncan House, Dolphin Square, SW1, August 16.

### From Mr Richard Gibbs

Sir, John Young's reference to the Jews House in Lincoln appears to confuse the house with the Jews Court next door. This was thought to be used as a synagogue and is now a bookshop and meeting place for various societies.

The Jews House, built around 1180, was built as a house and is still very much used as a house. Practically all the front of the building is original, some of the beams have been found to be original. The ground floor now contains a restaurant but it is still very much a domestic dwelling. The search goes on for the oldest house, but I hope we are in the running.

Yours sincerely, RICHARD GIBBS, The Jews House Restaurant, 15 The Strait, Lincoln.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071 782 5046).

### Coup aftermath

From Lord Zuckerman

Sir, At the time of the 1962 Cuban missile crisis, Mr Macmillan's government and our chiefs of staff had no plans for dealing with the situation that would have arisen had Khrushchev not yielded to the American ultimatum to withdraw the nuclear missiles that had been stationed within reach of the US mainland.

Now that the coup has failed and the authority of the Kremlin over the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics has been restored, we can, I hope, assume that the central control of the dispersed nuclear arsenal and defences of the USSR is not in question. Equally, I hope that we can assume that urgent thought is now being given by our own government, by that of the USA, and by NATO, to the situation that would arise were the USSR to break up into a series of separate sovereign states.

Yours faithfully, ZUCKERMAN (Chief scientific adviser to the Ministry of Defence, 1960-6), House of Lords, August 22.

From Dr Paul Arnison-Newgass  
Sir, Mrs Thatcher declared, oft quoted, that she could work with President Gorbachev. We owe it now to Mr Yeltsin to declare that we will work with the Russian people, and those of the Baltic states. The day has been truly theirs.

Of course we cannot bail the

### Women and alcohol

From the Director of Alcohol Concern

Sir, The government is to run a timely campaign warning women of the dangers of excessive drinking. All the recent evidence points to a dramatic increase in drinking problems amongst women — with a 42 per cent rise in deaths from chronic liver disease and cirrhosis of the liver in the ten years from 1979 to 1989, for example.

In these circumstances, any campaign which emphasises the medical recommendation of maximum levels of alcohol consumption (14 units of alcohol a week for women) must help to save lives.

The logical next step would be for the government to introduce legislation improving labelling on all alcoholic drinks containers, so that everyone knows precisely how much alcohol they are consuming.

For the record, one unit of alcohol represents one glass of wine, a half-pint of ordinary-strength beer or one pub measure of spirits. Yours faithfully, ERIC APPLEBY, Director, Alcohol Concern, 305 Gray's Inn Road, WC1, August 14.

### Out of the blue

From Mr S. Hodson Pressinger

Sir, It is interesting to ponder the significance of having the blue rose eventually in our midst (report, August 16). One possible application could be to incorporate it with the roses of Lancaster and York to reflect more accurately the colours of the realm since the Act of Union.

Another, more likely, application will not have escaped the minds of Conservative Central Office. Yours faithfully, S. HODSON PRESSINGER, 4 Lyall Street, Belgrave, SW1, August 18.

general studies programme (examined or not), or to combine a variety of subjects via the modular courses developed over recent years.

Five subjects, even at current A-level standard, are for the few, probably no more than 20 per cent. As it is highly desirable for a far higher number to remain in full-time education after 16 there must be suitable alternatives, and so far these we have failed to provide. Requiring five A-level subjects or abolishing A levels will not cause these alternatives suddenly to materialise.

Yours faithfully, GEOFFREY PARKER, High Master, The Manchester Grammar School, Manchester M13 0XT, August 22.

From the Headmaster of Northallerton Grammar School  
Sir, Miss Lory (August 19) suggests that schools' choice of combined science at GCSE could be a cause of shunning numbers taking advanced science.

This "local comprehensive" (despite our 900-year-old name) has offered only combined science up to 16, for the past five years. This year we presented 75 candidates for A-level sciences, with 97 per cent pass-rate; 43 per cent of these were at grade A or B.

These results are exceptional, even by our science department's standards. But trends in recent years suggest that more students are motivated to continue their science studies, following combined courses. They also showed that students perform far better at A level than they ever did when we offered separate sciences.

Yours faithfully, JOHN BELL, Headmaster, The Grammar School, Northallerton, North Yorkshire, August 19.

Soviet Union out of 70 years of communist incompetence; however, we should now unreservedly applaud all those who have so demonstrably rejected communism and acknowledge the finality of this commitment. Mr Gorbachev remains for all his nimble politics an avowed communist — so far.

Our encouragement of the Russian people should now be wholehearted, to achieve, in the hope there is truth in that precept, the government they really deserve. I am, Sir, your obedient servant, PAUL ARNISON-NEWGASS, 14 Mayflower Street, Rotherhithe, SE16, August 22.

From Sir Andrew Gilchrist  
Sir, No country can be expected to enjoy seeing its leader decline into an Uncle Tom, totting a begging bowl in increasingly supplicatory visits to potentates who had dealt with his predecessors on a basis of superpower equality or deference. We have built a Gorbachev in our preferred image, and the outcome was predictable.

Nothing better illustrates the political realism of Mr Mandela more than his rejection of the Western attempt to coddle him and to make an Uncle Tom out of him. He has chosen to stay at home in his own country, to work (or perhaps fight) things out with President de Klerk.

Yours faithfully, ANDREW GILCHRIST, Arthur's Crag, Hazelbank, By Lanark, August 19.

### Child murders

From Dr Virginia Warren

Sir, Your second leader, "The fear of murder" (August 17), was reassuring as far as it went. Mortality statistics are attractive to those trying to summarise situations. I suggest that the public intuitively uses a more sophisticated model: why else, for instance, do people dread cancer more than heart disease, when these two account for roughly equal proportions of premature death?

Perception of suffering before death is taken into account. It seems unlikely that the public regards the psychological suffering of an abducted child as comparable with that of a child dying an accidental death, even if that death is delayed rather than instantaneous.

Children have more hours at risk of abduction in school holidays than during term time. The summer holiday lasts more than another fortnight. The phenomenon of "copycat" crimes is recognised. Three murders of primary school children in a week; what is the definition of an epidemic in this context?

Parents' increased vigilance should not be dismissed. Yours faithfully, VIRGINIA WARREN (Senior Registrar in Public Health, East Anglian Regional Health Authority), 4 Pearce Close, Cambridge, August 18.

### Getting hotter?

From Mrs B. J. Pimblett

Sir, For the past two days we have had a pair of Australian cockatoos flying around the village.

Could this be a sign of global warming? Yours faithfully, BARBARA J. PIMBLETT, Flint Cottage, Northbourne, Kent, August 20.





## COURT CIRCULAR

**BUCKINGHAM PALACE**  
August 22: The Duchess of York this morning visited Ruchill Hospital, Bilsland Drive, Ruchill, Glasgow and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for the City of Glasgow (Mrs Susan Baird, the Right Hon the Lord Provost).  
Later Her Royal Highness, President, attended a reception for Scotland Action Research at Ruchill Hospital.  
The Duchess of York, Patron of the Motor Neurone Disease Association, this afternoon visited the Western General Hospital, Crewe Road, Edinburgh and was received by Dr John McKay (Deputy Lieutenant).  
Her Royal Highness later visited the National Gallery of Modern Art, the Scottish National Portrait Gallery, the Royal Scottish Academy and the National Gallery of Scotland.  
Captain Alexander Baillie-Hamilton was in attendance.

## Birthdays today

Mr M.G.M. Bevan, Lord Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire, 65; Mr Geoff Caple, 60; Mr Joseph E. Connor, chairman, Price Waterhouse World Firm, 60; Sir Robert Crichlow-Burman, former chairman, Rothmans International, 72; Dr Carl Dolmetsch, director, Haslemere Festival, 80; Sir John Fairclough, former Chief Scientific Adviser to the Cabinet Office, 61; Mr Alexander Gilmore, former chairman, National Playing Fields Association, 60; Sir John Hoskyns, former director-general, Institute of Directors, 64; Mr Gene Kelly, dancer and singer, 79; Lord Kinnaird, 79; Mr S. Kitchen, chartered accountant, 78; Mr Peter Lilley, MP, 48; Mr James Quinn, former director, British Film Institute, 72; Miss Helen Rees, director, Design Museum, 31; Mr Willy Russell, author, 44; Sir Roy Strong, former director, Victoria and Albert Museum, 56; Mr Peter Thomson, golfer, 62; Field Marshal Sir Richard Vincent, 60; Sir Brian Young, former chairman, Christian Aid, 69.

## Anniversaries

**BIRTHS:** Louis XVI, king of France, 1774-93; Versailles, 1754; Sir Asley Cooper, surgeon, Brook Hill, Norfolk, 1768; Georges Cuvier, Baron Cuvier, zoologist and statesman, Montbéliard, France, 1769; William Ernest Henley, writer, Gloucester, 1849; Eleutherios Venizelos, five times prime minister of Greece, Crete, 1864; Sir Henry Tizard, scientist, Gillingham, Kent, 1885.  
**DEATHS:** Sir William Wallace, Scottish patriot, executed, London, 1305; Luis de Leon, mystic and poet, Madrid de las Atlas, Spain, 1591; Charles Augustin de Coulomb, physicist, Paris, 1806; Rudolf Valentino, silent-film actor, New York, 1926; Adolf Loos, architect, Vienna, 1933; Oscar Hammerstein II, song writer, Doylestown, Pennsylvania, 1960.  
Britain took Hong Kong from China, 1839.  
Blitz on London began, 1940.

## University news

**Glasgow**  
Dr Ian A. Greer, clinical consultant at the Medical Research Council's reproductive health unit, Edinburgh, has been appointed to the Murrill chair of obstetrics and gynaecology, from October.

## Forthcoming marriages

**Mr J.E.R. Armstrong and Miss F.C. Dixon**  
The engagement is announced between James Edward Kingsley, elder son of Mr and Mrs Julian Armstrong, of Barnes, London, SW13, and Fiona Caroline, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Trevor Dixon, of Henton, Oxfordshire.  
**Mr J.S. Bills and Miss S.J.A. Millington**  
The engagement is announced between John, only son of Mr and Mrs William R. Bills, of Weybridge, Surrey, and Sarah Jane, daughter of Michael Millington Norton, of Nairn, Kenya, and late Annie Norton, of Tetbury, Gloucestershire.  
**Mr R. Cantrill and Miss E. Ferras**  
The engagement is announced between Roderick, only son of Mr Raymond Cantrill, BEM, and Mrs Cantrill, of Annesley Woodhouse, Nottinghamshire, and Ella, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Edward Ferras, of Banbridge, Northern Ireland.  
**Mr S.T.P. Davies and Miss S. Moore**  
The engagement is announced between Toby, son of Mr and Mrs Colin Price Davies, of Bickley, Kent, and Susan, daughter of Mr and Mrs Matthew Moore, of Grange Road, Ballymena, County Antrim.  
**Mr S.C. Fitzherbert Jones and Dr R.C. Ashburner**  
The engagement is announced between Simon, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Terence Fitzherbert Jones, of Bath, and Rosemary, elder daughter of the Rev David and Mrs Ashburner, of Bourton-on-the-Hill, Gloucestershire, formerly of Uffington Vicarage.  
**Lieutenant R.E. van der Horst, RN and Miss L.M. Footner**  
The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Brigadier and Mrs R. van der Horst, of Wiltshire, and Louise, daughter of Mr and Mrs A. Footner, of Brampton, Cambridgeshire.  
**Mr S.A. Hickey and Miss E.J. Bennett**  
The engagement is announced between Sean, eldest son of Lieutenant Colonel and Mrs N.A. Hickey, of Canterbury, Kent, and Emily, daughter of Mr and Mrs L.C. Bennett, of Prestbury, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.  
**Mr K.P. Jansen and Miss E.K. Whall**  
The engagement is announced between Karl Peter, youngest son of Mr and Mrs C.F. Jansen, of Knighton, Leicestershire, and Emma Kate, only daughter of Mrs A. Whall, of Rearsby, Leicestershire.  
**Dr A.D. Kelton and Miss S.C. Rosen**  
The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Mr and Mrs John Kelton, of Pinner, Middlesex, and Sally, daughter of Mr and Mrs David Rosen, of Epsom, Surrey.  
**Mr J.B. Keley and Miss C.E. Whalen**  
The engagement is announced between James Byron, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Hugh Kelsey, of Wickhampton, Kent, and Catherine Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Geoffrey Whalen, of Abingdon, Oxfordshire.  
**Lieutenant H.A.H. Merewether, RN and Miss S.J. Baden Fuller**  
The engagement is announced between Henry, eldest son of Mr and Mrs H.H. Merewether, of Belgavia, London, and Susanna, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs A.T. Baden Fuller, of Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire.  
**Mr S.J. Thomson and Miss L.C. Edwards**  
The engagement is announced between Simon, only son of Mr and Mrs Adam Thomson, of Tyne Steading, Ormiston, East Lothian, and Charlie, younger daughter of the late Mr Bill Edwards, of Mr and Mrs Elizabeth Edwards, of Langlands, Woldingham, Surrey.

## OBITUARIES

## WILFRID THOMAS

Wilfrid Thomas, AO, writer, entertainer and broadcaster, died in London on August 16, aged 87. He was born on May 2, 1904.

Wilfrid Thomas was the archetypal Australian abroad and as an Aussie amongst Pommies he was to become a prominent member of that celebrated band — Robert Helpmann, Coral Browne, Midge Elliott and Cyril Ritchard, Bertha Belmore and Dick Bentley among others — who had after starting in Australia made their homes and reputations in England.

Wilf Thomas had a natural congeniality and, despite his accent and dress, an ability to fit in easily wherever he went and whatever he did. He was in fact born in London of Australian stock and after being educated at Summer Hill Primary School and Petersham High School he finished his studies at the State Conservatorium of Music in Sydney. His youth was largely spent in Sydney and throughout Australia and New Zealand and thereafter he developed through his travels to become one of those media personalities who could turn their talents to varied use.

Possessed of an above average singing voice, he was discovered in his teens by Dame Nellie Melba in Sydney and as this necessitated his leaving school, where he had been an advertising manager, he speeded up the process by throwing in commerce completely for the more uncertain world of showbusiness, starting under her tutelage. He next had engagements as a vocalist for overseas concert tours under the banner of the Australian impresario Edward Branscombe.

This brought him to England in the early 1930s, whereupon he was engaged by the eccentric T. Arthur Russell for whom he appeared in a series of National Sunday League concerts at such varied spots as the old Prince of Wales Theatre, the London Palladium and the Wigmore Hall. On these dates Wilf was usually the comper, who reserved for himself a place on the programme where he could introduce himself as well as the others on the bill. These were notable events in the sense that owing to the Sunday Entertainments ruling, no make-up or props could be used. Without such artificial aids, except



the pit orchestras to provide a background for the various artists, many participants found it a struggle to capture the undivided attention of their audiences. And it was due to Thomas's rugged approach to his material as comper that most of the bills were so successful.

Apart from the many Sunday League concerts of which he made himself such a mainstay, he became a

popular broadcaster, singing many of his own compositions. He later played to good advantage in such BBC series as *The Air-Do-Wells* and *Dancing Through*. He also tackled a variety of jobs as Ally-Pally in the early days of TV and cut a number of records for both Columbia and Parlophone on his own and in the company of Ivor Novello. He was one of the early quiz masters of television but it was as a

commentator and interviewer that he became really well known.

For some years following the war Thomas presented Granada's *World In Action*. In the late 1940s and 1950s he also narrated a large number of documentary films for the old Pathe company. After heading the *American Foreign Leader Programme* tour in Canada before returning to Australia Thomas found time to partner a fellow-Australian, Dick Bentley, for whom he was said to have invented the running gag "Gentle Bentley". In Australia as well as throughout the United Kingdom his voice first and then his appearance became household property and he consolidated his media fame by being the originator of the *Wilfrid Thomas Half Hour* series, from which he made a number of recordings. He also contributed from Europe to the BBC global round-ups on Christmas day in the 1950s. His interview with a German refugee mother in a displaced persons hospital will be especially remembered.

From documentary film-making it was a natural step to journalism and for his work as a war correspondent he was offered the chairmanship of the Australian Independent Film Group which he helped run simultaneously with his visits "down under". In New Zealand he narrated and recorded, amongst many others, a programme of aboriginal tribal music. Firmly entrenched by the 1960s as an Australian, abroad and at home, Wilfrid Thomas was — with his talented actress wife, Bettina Dickinson — to make London his first home in the 1970s and afterwards, finding time to record from London to Australia a programme similar in style and content to Alistair Cooke's famous *Letter from America*.

A life member of the League Against Cruel Sports and a worker for the National Society for Handicapped Children and the Royal Institute of International Affairs, he was made an Officer of the Order of Australia, while Italy made him a Cavaliere Ufficiale of the Order of Merit of the Republic.

He wrote a number of books, perhaps the best known being *Living on Air* (1958) while among his many successful recordings "Rose, Rose I Love You" was a Golden Disc winner in 1951. He leaves his widow, Bettina,

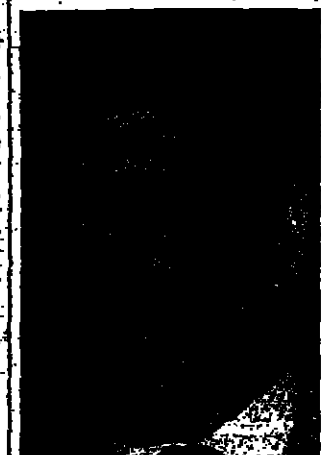
## LUIGI ZAMPA

Luigi Zampa, Italian film director, died on August 15 aged 86. He was born in Rome on January 2, 1905.

Luigi Zampa earned his place in film history largely through his 1946 film *Vivere in pace*, a popular example of Italy's burgeoning neo-realist movement. The setting was a remote mountain village during the war, living peacefully under the Axis powers' lackadaisical eye until the idyll became threatened by the arrival of two escaped American prisoners, one of them black. The film's comic and melodramatic by turns, with a definite pacifist slant — was a huge success for Lux Films and its producer Carlo Ponti.

After studying engineering, Zampa gained early experience as an actor and playwright. But it was cinema that claimed him. He directed a short film in 1933, studied in Rome at the Academy of St Cecilia's Scuola Nazionale di Cinematografia and the Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia, entering the industry in 1938 as a script-writer and assistant director. His first feature, *L'Attore Scomparsa*, followed in 1941; but it was not until after the war that he found his niche. *Un Americano in vacanza* (1945), a rough-hewn tale about an American GI touring Rome with a young village schoolmistress, established Zampa's penchant for using amateur performers; then came *Vivere in pace*.

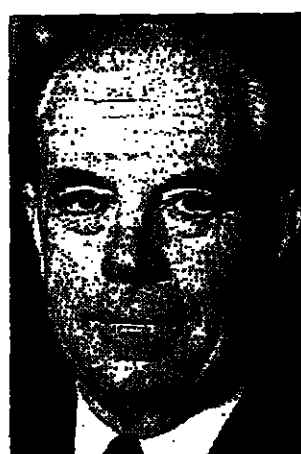
Zampa continued his association with Lux Films, directing the critically under-



estimated *L'Onorevole Angelini* (1947); with Anna Magnani as a policeman's wife organising slum district ladies against local corruption. He found wider success with *Anni Difficili* (1948), a powerful account of Italian fascism's rise and fall, seen through the eyes of a Sicilian family of modest means. *Campagna a martello* (1948) — another study in village life, filmed on the island of Ischia — gave an early role to Gina Lollobrigida; she was also featured in *Cuor senza frontiere* (1949), an anti-war drama set near the Yugoslav border, and *La Romana* (1954), based on Alberto Moravia's best-selling novel, known in English as *The Woman of Rome*.

Zampa's particular neo-realist approach began to look outdated as the 1950s advanced and his films relied increasingly on commercial formulae; but he remained a respected name. Later films, little seen outside Italy, included *Una Questione d'onore* (1965), set in Sardinia, and the improbably-titled *Bello Onesto* (1966), about a Sicilian emigrant in Australia. "A beautiful, honest Australian emigrant wishes to marry a virtuous compatriot!" — (1970).

## SIR NORMAN ROWNTREE



Sir Norman Rowntree, former director of the Water Resources Board, died on July 22 aged 79. He was born on March 11, 1912.

THE water shortages over the past few years were forecast as long ago as 1972 by the Water Resources Board, of which Norman Rowntree was a far-sighted director. The board warned then that too few reservoirs would be built.

Rowntree had a gift for looking into the future and coming up with ideas that have had a significant and lasting impact on debate about water resources in this country. The first time was during the second world war when he produced a paper forecasting that the several thousand water supply authorities needed to be reduced to no more than a score to create greater efficiency and economy of scale. Later, as the board's director, he stimulated the creation of co-ordinated research into the quality and nature of water resources, including the feasibility of barrages.

Norman Andrew Forster Rowntree left school at the age of 17 to become a civil engineering pupil of Sir William Prescott, contractor, and graduated from the Northampton Polytechnic in

London — the forerunner of the City University — having attended evening classes there. Following his early work with consultants and water-supply authorities he became deputy engineer for the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company and obtained a diploma in public administration from the University of Durham.

Rowntree published a prophetic paper in 1943 on the pattern of national water supply which would be required after the second world war. At the time there were more than 3,000 water supply authorities and he forecast that the national need required this number to be reduced to 20 regional authorities in Britain to husband resources and better to co-ordinate supply over each region, so leading to economies of scale with higher grade management and better scientific backing. There are now 10 regional water and sewerage companies and 28 independent water companies in England and Wales, and in Scotland 12 water supply organisations attached to the regional and area councils.

In 1947 Rowntree became the first engineer and manager of the South East Cheshire Water Board, an amalgamation of smaller water

authorities, and in 1953 he accepted an invitation to return to his former consulting engineering employers, Rofe and Rafferty, as a partner.

From 1959 to 1961 he was a member of the Central Advisory Water Committee on the basis of whose recommendations the government introduced the water resources bill which became the act of 1963. In 1962-3 he was president of the Institution of Water Engineers and introduced the rule that he and his successors were to give the president's lecture to post-graduate students of hydrology and public health engineering at Imperial Col-

lege. The water resources act 1963 provided for a water resources board to be established for the determination and management of the water resources of England and Wales. That year Rowntree accepted the government's offer of the post of director of the board.

He set about gathering over a period, some 60 engineers, scientists and administrators to promote research into hydrology, ground-water problems, rainfall radar, water quality, desalination and national and regional resource studies. The board stimulated the river authorities to do similar work with their neighbours, in their own areas. The board and the river authorities jointly sponsored research into the feasibility of barrages, for example at Morecambe, to form large estuary reservoirs for fresh-water storage, recreation, fish farming and what is now called environmental enhancement.

Rowntree was knighted in 1970, but the board was abolished in 1974.

In 1973 Rowntree joined forces with a former colleague to establish the consulting firm of Rowntree Boddington Associates. Two years later he accepted an invitation to the

chair of civil engineering at the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology (UMIST).

He was a founder member of the Natural Environment Research Council from 1965 onwards and exerted great influence on the national research effort in the fresh-water sciences. In 1975-6 he was president of the Institution of Civil Engineers and was responsible for a review of the institution's education, training and examination pattern by a committee headed by Sir Henry (now Lord) Chilver. He served on the board and on the executive committee of the Council of Engineering Institutions, the forerunner of the Engineering Council. He was in demand as a speaker and lecturer in this country, in North America and in the Middle East.

His links with the City University were re-forged when in 1974 the honorary degree of Doctor of Science was conferred upon him; the students elected him to be the honorary president of their engineering society and the university council invited him to join their number.

Rowntree married in 1939 Betty Thomas. They had two sons and a daughter.

## Archaeology

## Golf course schemes threaten historic sites

By NORMAN HAMMOND, ARCHAEOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

THE boom in golf course construction is threatening historic landscapes and archaeological sites, according to English Heritage. The organisation is so concerned that it has issued guidelines to help local authorities gauge the impact of a proposal, and the safeguards that should be demanded if planning permission is granted.

"Major ground modelling can cause physical destruction of ancient features, including below-ground archaeology," the English Heritage statement says. Many courses are built in the grounds of country houses, and the setting can be seriously eroded by the obligation that course architects feel to place the first and tenth tees, and the ninth and eighteenth holes, close to the clubhouse if this is in the former mansion.

"Historic fabric is a non-renewable resource, so any changes to existing features will cause a loss of historical information," English Heritage says, while conceding that nature conservation might well benefit from the use of roughly half the course area as rough.

Some 1,200 sites in England alone are already listed as parks and gardens of special historic interest, in addition to those scheduled as ancient monuments because they are preserved ancient landscapes. Even some unlisted sites may require particularly sensitive treatment, the statement says.

Another difficulty is "that applications are often quickly followed by other related ones, which may be even more potentially damaging to his-

toric interests than the golf course itself. Golf schemes are often part of a larger package involving an hotel, chalets, a country club, or a combination of these." Such complexes are argued by developers to be economically necessary, and a golf use may be claimed as "the only way to save a declining landscape from final extinction", the report says.

In these circumstances, it suggests, "a field survey is a

pre-requisite for any application which might affect an historic landscape: an analysis of this historic development is necessary in order to make sense of the evidence, identify important features, and provide a guide to their future restoration and development. Benefits can come from reassembly of land in divided ownership, management improvements and repair of damaged features.

"Developers should be en-

couraged early in the process to produce impact assessments voluntarily, and to take advice from suitably experienced specialists in historic landscapes. Sometimes the above ground remains have disappeared, but there may be certain areas of below-ground archaeology discernible from aerial photographs that should not be considered for earth stripping."

"There may be evidence of agricultural systems from pre-historic times onward; the Normans introduced hunting parks which often had huge ditches and banks. Within the last 600 years the English countryside has been embellished with the country houses of the monarchy, nobility and gentry. It is important to protect the settings of these houses; any change in land use can pose a threat."

While promoters often offer enhancement and restoration to offset acknowledged damage, "restoration should not be seen as the saving grace of a fundamentally flawed scheme", the report says. "There are as yet no examples of restoration which can show how easily what was promised can be achieved, so inducements must be treated with caution."

## Flaw in Longleat floor

By CHRISTOPHER WARMAN, PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

THE sixteenth century state dining room at Longleat House, Wiltshire, has been closed to visitors because a sagging beam has caused the floor to sink, threatening an ornate ceiling in the room below.

Urgent repair work, which could cost £20,000, has begun after staff saw the huge dining table sliding along the room, but the damage is under control, Lord Christopher Thynne, who runs the estate, said yesterday.

The ceilings were hung from the rafters, he said, and the weight of the table and 15 million visitors over the years had caused a beam to come away from the wall, causing it to sag. "It is quite a complicated operation and we are having to get a girder made." The house attracts nearly 200,000 visitors a year, but Lord Christopher was philosophical. "We have visitors here in order to help pay for repairs to the house that we know will be needed from time to time. The visitors can now see the work being done and it makes them realise just how expensive it is to keep the house."











**CHANNEL 4**

**6.00 The Channel 4 Daily**  
**9.25 Film: The Man from Utah (1934, b/w).** Continuing the season of silent films, the young Duke stars as a lawman investigating a racket at a local rodeo. Simple second feature here, directed by Robert N. Bradbury  
**10.30 Broken Silence: The First Link.** Vegetarian animals are the subject of this week's Spanish natural history series  
**11.00 Testament: Gospel Truth?** In the fourth of seven programmes the archaeologist John Romer travels across the Egyptian desert to investigate the origins of the Gospels (r)  
**12.00 Eleasants: Wood and Wool.** Contemporary artists who work with unusual materials 12.30 **Business Daily 1.00 Sesame Street (r)**  
**2.00 Painted Tales: Eduardo Pitolzoi — City of the Circle and the Square.** An animated appraisal of a work of art (r)  
**2.15 Easy Does It.** Gentle exercises for the over-fifties  
**2.30 Channel 4 Racing.** From Newswatcher, Derek Thompson introduces the racing (subject-matter): (2.35) Port of Tilbury Handicap; (3.05) Rye House Compau Computer Handicap; (3.35) Hopeful Stakes; (4.05) Beheny Maiden Stakes  
**4.30 Countdown.** Richard Whitley hosts the words and numbers game. With cartoonist Bill Tidy in the Dictionary Corner  
**5.00 The Encircled Sea: The Writer's Edge.** Andrew Sachs narrates the first of a ten-part portrait of the Mediterranean and the people who live its shores (r)  
**5.30 Greek Fire: War.** The first programme focuses on the death and destruction of war. Regarded by the Greeks as the road to glory and honour, it is an attitude which, in the nuclear age, could become the ultimate reality  
**6.00 Roseanne: Little Sister.** Wserecracking American domestic comedy starring the amply-built Roseanne Barr and John Goodman  
**6.30 absolutely something.** The arts and entertainment programme talks to Dan Ackroyd about his new film *Nothing But Trouble*. Presented by Maria McEneaney and Ann Bryson  
**7.00 Channel 4 News.** Weather  
**7.50 First Reaction.** The comedian Felix Dexter gives his opinion on Isaac Julien's film *Young Soul Rebels*  
**8.00 Brookside.** Merseyside soap. (Teletext)  
**8.30 Europe Express.** European current affairs magazine Michael Vagg reports from Prague on Czechoslovakia's new-found freedom; Franck Dubois visits the black market bazaar town of Zahony on the Hungarian-Soviet border, and Isabelle Stasi-Castrioti braves the separatist violence on the island of Corsica  
**9.00 The Cowich's Daughter.** A repeat showing of the first series of the polished American comedy set in a Boston watering-hole. With Shelley Long and Tod Danson (r) (Teletext)

**Lolo and Bekah Hart overcome the language barrier (8:00pm)**

the end of the day, however, the content is much the same, a mixture of topical advice and demonstrations of more long-term gardening projects. Tonight's programme includes items about disabled gardeners and irrigation in the small garden and tips on dealing with chivalry.

**10.00 Dream On Sex and the Single Father.** American sitcom starring Ben Benben as a man on the brink of divorce. (Teletext)

**10.35 Packet of Three.** Henry Normal, Jenny Eclair and Frank Skinner host another evening's entertainment at the Crumpled Palladium

**11.20 Edinburgh Live!** Live from the Assembly Rooms, Anthony H. Wilson and comedian Jack Dee present the best Fringe acts

**12.20 American Chivalry.** A hilarious series of sketches

**1.20 Under Sparks!** The Australian drama season continues with a very portrait of a group of young people living in a house halfway between psychiatric wards and the outside community

**2.05 Sid Caesar's Show of Shows (b/w).** Highlights from the Fifties

Volvo PGA European Golf Tour 6.00  
 Salomon Challenge 6.00 Gillette World  
 Golf Classic 6.00 US Grand Prix Open

**EUROSPORT**

© Via the Astra satellite.  
10.00pm to Hockey 9.00 Swimming  
European Championships Diving 4.00pm to 6.00pm  
Swimming European Championships Athens 5.30  
to 8.00 Rhythmic Gymnastics Europe 7.00  
Judo World Championships 7.30 Cynling World Championships 8.00 Swimming European Championships Athens 10.30 News

**SCREENSPORT**

© Via the Astra satellite  
10.00am European White Water Racing  
Championships 7.30 Hippodrome France  
Championnat de Reunion Endurance World Championship  
Racing 8.30 Sport the France 8.50 US Men's  
Pro Bowlers 10.00 Slip & Deck Challenge  
Challenge the Racings 11.00 Christie's Historic  
Car Sale 12.00 US Open Prebase Championship  
Tennis 12.00 All Japan Sports Photography  
Championships 2.00 Argentine Soccer 2.30

**LIFESTYLE**

© Via the Astra satellite.  
10.00am to 11.00 American Gameshow  
11.15 Coffee Break 11.20 Everyday Workout  
11.40 Simply Mathematics 12.15 Style  
Jeany Repeat 12.40 The Star Time 1.10  
Sports for Tomorrow 1.40 The Edge of Night  
2.05 Dance Court 2.30 Lifestyle Plus 2.40  
The Tom Fowell Show 3.10 Wednesday News  
Choosing 4.00 Tass 4.10 Mothers-in-Law 4.40 The Great American Gameshow  
5.00 The Six Minute Shopping Programme  
10.00 Close 11.00 Sessile Jukebox


**NTV**

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# Heart risks 'can be cut by moderate drinking'

By OUR MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

SOME of the strongest evidence yet that moderate drinking protects against heart disease is published today in a study involving more than 50,000 health workers.

The study of male doctors, dentists, pharmacists and veterinary surgeons in America strongly supports the hypothesis of a causal link between alcohol consumption and lower risk of coronary disease. The findings suggest that men who have two or three drinks a day reduce the risk by about 40 per cent compared with those who drink no alcohol or very little. That is the same percentage found in a study by New Zealand doctors and published in the *British Medical Journal* last month. The American research also shows that the risk of heart disease was cut by a third in men who drank moderately three or four days a week compared with those who drank one day a week.

The researchers, from Harvard medical school, Boston, monitored the health professionals for three years after asking them about their drinking habits. The incidence of newly diagnosed heart disease in the men was investigated at the end of the project. Adjustments were made for such risk factors as dietary intake of cholesterol, fat and fibre to prevent bias in the results.

"Our results... provide strong evidence for the hypothesis that alcohol intake is inversely associated with coronary artery disease. Moderate alcohol consumption was consistently associated with a reduced risk of fatal and non-fatal myocardial infarction [heart attack] and coronary artery bypass graft," the researchers say in *The Lancet*. They suggest that a possible

mechanism by which alcohol reduces coronary artery disease is through raising levels of high-density lipoproteins in the blood. Such lipoproteins are seen as helping to prevent arteries becoming clogged with fatty deposits.

The researchers point out that high levels of alcohol consumption can increase the risks of heart disease and can have other severe adverse effects. "However, within the range of alcohol consumption in this cohort, we found a continuous decreasing risk of coronary artery disease with increasing alcohol levels."

□ Tamoxifen, a drug used to treat breast cancer, has been found to protect women against heart attacks. The finding emerged in a Medical Research Council study of more than 1,000 post-menopausal women in Scotland with breast cancer who have taken it for at least five years.

The drug seems to be able to reduce levels of potentially dangerous cholesterol in the blood, researchers say in the *British Medical Journal*.



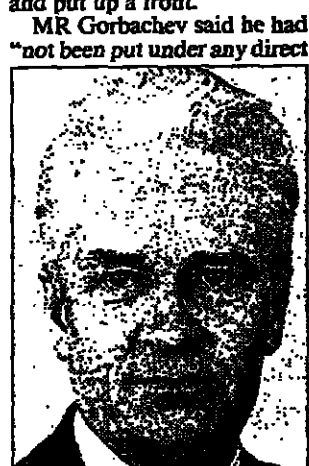
Firstborn: ten-day-old Lambda, the world's only banded langur born in captivity, with his mother at John Aspinall's Howletts zoo park, Canterbury, yesterday. The southeast Asian monkeys are becoming rare because of deforestation

## Knock on door led to Gorbachev's terror

Continued from page 1 enormous victory for perestroika. They wanted to break the president morally. Well, nothing came of it."

Mr Gorbachev said the coup leaders had tried and failed to take advantage of Soviet tensions over economic problems, food shortages and living conditions. He thanked Mr Yeltsin and the Soviet people for opposing the coup. "I am extremely appreciative and grateful to the Soviet people and for the principled stand the Russians have taken, to the president of the Russian Republic Yeltsin... who resolutely opposed this adventure. This is something we can truly be proud of."

In an interview with AFP before leaving to fly to Moscow, Mr Gorbachev said he had been held in "complete isolation." He added: "I condemn this adventure and this coup as madness." He dismissed claims by the coup leaders that he had been suffering from health problems as a "total absurdity... I can say one thing: I made no deals, and I stood by my firm position. We formed a family and put up a front."



Silayer: went to fetch Gorbachev from his villa

pressure" while detained in the dacha, but stressed the "great tension of those four days."

He reportedly brought back with him KGB chief Vladimir Kryuchkov, who was then arrested back in Moscow for helping to lead the coup.

Mr Kryuchkov had arrived in the Crimea along with four other plotters, including Interior Minister Boris Pugo and Defense Minister Dmitry Yazov, in a doomed last attempt to make a deal with Mr Gorbachev as the coup collapsed.

Also aboard Mr Gorbachev's plane to Moscow were his wife Raisa, the normally well turned out daughter Irina, who looked drawn, and his granddaughter.

Residents of the area around Gorbachev's compound said that on Monday morning they noticed that the usual guards had been replaced by a KGB regiment from Sebastopol, and that six vessels were off the coast and a

helicopter was flying overhead.

On Wednesday, a delegation from the Crimean legislature asked a Major Vyacheslav Yermakov, any of his family or his chief bodyguard, and they were refused, NIA reported.

But by yesterday Mr Gorbachev was back in communication and control. He gave the credit to Boris Yeltsin as well as several other world leaders who demanded his release. He excluded by name from that list Libya's Col Gaddafi and Iraq's Saddam Hussein, drawing laughter from journalists at the packed press conference.

But there was bitterness in his voice when he referred to defence minister Dmitry Yazov, General Kryuchkov and above all Gennadi Yanayev, the deputy who betrayed his trust.

Mr Gorbachev revealed that soon after he met the Russian delegation sent by Mr

Yeltsin to the Crimea to bring him back, they had reached an understanding to overcome past differences.

"We understood each other very well... There was a greater measure of understanding. We understood what it means to be united when we are a democracy," Mr Gorbachev said.

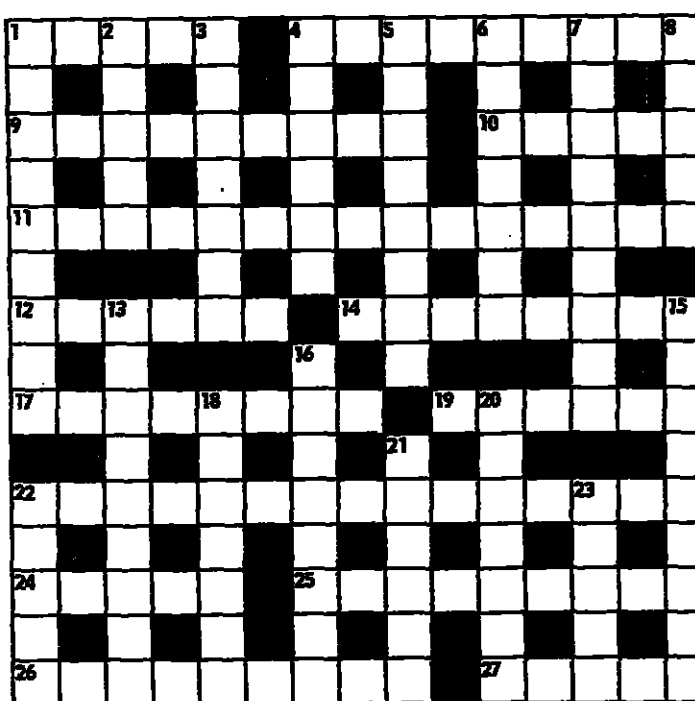
□ The restoration of President Gorbachev to power, which has come as a relief to much of the Western world, has shocked Peking which believes that under Mr Gorbachev communism in the Soviet Union is in danger, but under Mr Yeltsin it would be doomed.

Gorbachev's own story in full, page 2  
Boris's best woman, page 12  
Mary Dejevsky, Janet Daley, and Diary, page 14  
Leading articles and Letters, page 15  
Market record, page 21  
Business comment, page 23

## Short through to semi-finals

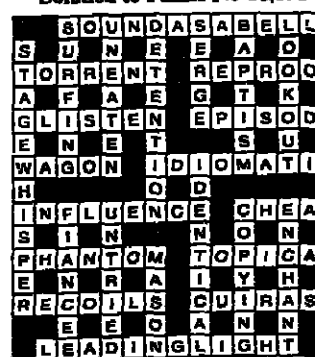
NIGEL Short has won a place in the world chess championship semi-finals in Brussels, becoming only the second Briton to qualify. Short beat Boris Gelfand five games to three when the Soviet player resigned yesterday after 51 moves of the eighth game.

## THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 18,692



- ACROSS**
- Failure as a poet (5).
  - Exemplary records (9).
  - Reason to distribute shares by October, perhaps (9).
  - Poignant pronounced what priest might wear (5).
  - What expert in share movements wants from the board at midday (10,5).
  - Strange character not found among Noah's passengers (6).
  - Band set on fire (3,5).
  - Well-known person in bishop's service (8).
  - Score? Test opener out for a duck (6).
  - Work of James Whistler's mother, for example (8,2,1,4).
  - Holst last of luggage into hold (3).

Solution to Puzzle No 18,691



- DOWN**
- Checked stout in local a man consumed (9).
  - Laboriously secure fish - is that sport? (9).
  - Line management aid for the person in charge (5).
  - Ruined if found scorching? On the contrary (9).
  - Unfashionable suit and cap (5).
  - Judged, however, to a nicety? (7).
  - Close, reticent person needs my support (6).
  - Setbacks wild antelope (8).
  - Provide accompaniment on record for unfinished work (7).
  - Go in to put off leaving (6,3).
  - Whip and second whip (5).
  - Limit of French brandy consumed (9).
  - Person joining celebration - political activist? (9).
  - Spanish girl and Greek character in Mexican band (8).
  - Left, heading East for French port (7).
  - It takes a miracle to change a professor (7).
  - Follow behind on sharp bend (3-3).
  - Page by author producing contemptuous reaction (5).
  - Cancel or remove second article from yearbook (5).

Concise Crossword, page 17

By Philip Howard

- CREACH**
- A foray or raid
  - The freshwater crab
  - An arrow slit
- SHOOT**
- A young hog
  - The wild cat
  - A deputy or stand-in
- KAAMA**
- The entrance to Nirvana
  - The hartebeest
  - The Queen Cobra
- SCALDINO**
- Muddled red wine
  - A scolding ladder
  - An earthenware brazier

Answers on page 18

## AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0836 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE	
C. London (within N & S Circs.)	731
M-ways/roads M4-M1	732
M-ways/roads M1-Dartford 1-4	733
M-ways/roads Dartford 1-4	734
M-ways/roads M23-M4	735
M25 London Orbital only	736

National	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 34p per minute (cheap rate) and 45p per minute at all other times.

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All parts will have rain or showers interrupted by drier, brighter periods. Northern and eastern England will have the best of the weather at first with Wales, the Midlands and southern areas becoming drier and brighter later, followed by a clear evening. Some rain will be heavy with thunder possible in places. It will be very windy, especially in the South. Outlook: mostly dry with clear or sunny periods.

WEDNESDAY: hazy, drizzle, fog, rain, sleet, snow, hail, hail, hail, hail.

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## Arresting time as cardiologists feel city's pulse

THE best place in Europe to have a heart attack this week is Amsterdam, although there is a risk of being tripped in the stampede of volunteers rushing to help.

The annual congress of the European Society of Cardiology has been going on here all week, which means that some 5,000 people who know your circulatory system like the back of their hand are in town.

It also means that for six nights, the best hotel rooms, the best restaurant tables and the best theatre seats have been snapped up. As any delegate at an international medical conference knows, all work and no play makes Jack a dull doctor.

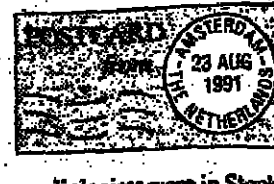
That's why the congress organisers have hijacked the Concertgebouw Orchestra for an evening of Beethoven and Tchaikovsky, the sort of stuff that heart surgeons like listening to in operating theatres during transplants. It's also why there are conducted cruises through the city's own famous arteries, expeditions to museums to check up on Van Gogh and Rembrandt, and trips to a moated castle on the IJsselmeer.

Doctors like to travel and broaden their minds at the same time, especially at someone else's expense.

Step in those big-hearted drug companies, who are here in strength, picking up the tab for thousands of the delegates, one way or another. They sponsor many of the meetings within the congress, flying in just the top speakers, but a big chunk of their audiences as well.

Of course no doctor would tolerate any suggestion that he or she is influenced towards recommending or prescribing one particular drug rather than another in return for this generosity. As one British specialist here put it, the best way to remain truly objective is to be sponsored by a different pharmaceutical company at each conference on the calendar.

That calendar is pretty full for the medical profession, and it is no coincidence that the biggest meetings tend to be held in some of the world's most attractive cities. The



cardiologists were in Stockholm for last year's congress and are already looking forward to next year's reunion in Barcelona.

The annual Aids jamboree this year was in Florence, and has been held previously in San Francisco, Montreal, Stockholm and Paris. The British Medical Association's big scientific meeting, in November, will be in Perth - not the Scottish city, of course, the one in Western Australia, and two planeloads of GPs will travel.

The last such BMA outing was to Jamaica, and before that, Kuala Lumpur.

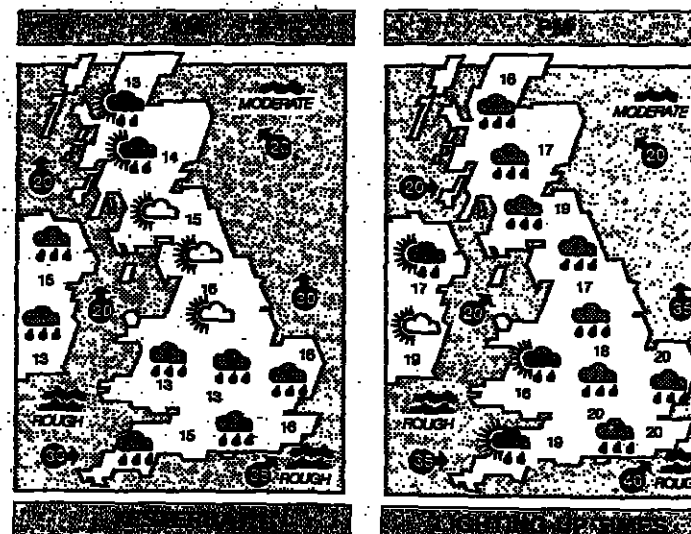
There's no harm in all this jetting about, however envious us humble patients might feel. The doctors here have thrashed out the latest debates on treatments and research, swapped expertise, and been saturated with useful data. They have had a chance to meet and listen to some of the world's leading experts in their field.

They have been digesting, literally, some of the new evidence. Red wine, we learn, may be useful in reducing blood cholesterol levels. Garlic is credited with similar benefits and much attention has been given to findings that a Mediterranean-style diet, rich in fish, vegetables, fruit and olive oil, keeps a coronary at bay.

Amsterdam provides all this in abundance, and is a good choice for a cardiology conference. The city has a vibrant pulse and a big, warm heart. With its nomadic hordes of denuded teenagers circulating endlessly through the cobble-stoned streets, and its energetic night-life, it's a great advertisement for vitality and staying young.

If it energises the visiting doctors, maybe by the time they get back to work we'll reap a little benefit. They may even suggest that what we need is a nice, relaxing holiday.

THOMSON PRENTICE



Temperature at midday yesterday: C, cloud: 1, rain: 2, sun: 3	
Belfast	10 C
Birmingham	12 C
Blackpool	11 C
Bristol	13 C
Cardiff	12 C
Edinburgh	10 C
Glasgow	11 C

Wednesday: Highest day temp: Jersey. Lowest night temp: London. Wind: S.W. 10-15 mph. Rain: 10-15 mm. Sun: 10-15 min. Cloud: 10-15%.

Thursday: Highest day temp: Jersey. Lowest night temp: London. Wind: S.W. 10-15 mph. Rain: 10-15 mm. Sun: 10-15 min. Cloud: 10-15%.

Friday: Highest day temp: Jersey. Lowest night temp: London. Wind: S.W. 10-15 mph. Rain: 10-15 mm. Sun: 10-15 min. Cloud: 10-15%.

Saturday: Highest day temp: Jersey. Lowest night temp: London. Wind: S.W. 10-15 mph. Rain: 10-15 mm. Sun: 10-15 min. Cloud: 10-15%.

Sunday: Highest day temp: Jersey. Lowest night temp: London. Wind: S.W. 10-15 mph. Rain: 10-15 mm. Sun: 10-15 min. Cloud: 10-15%.

Monday: Highest day temp: Jersey. Lowest night temp: London. Wind: S.W. 10-15 mph. Rain: 10-15 mm. Sun: 10-15 min. Cloud: 10-15%.

Tuesday: Highest day temp: Jersey. Lowest night temp: London. Wind: S.W. 10-15 mph. Rain: 10-15 mm. Sun: 10-15 min. Cloud: 10-15%.

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مكتبة الامن الاصل



WEEKEND  
MONEY  
TOMORROW

PROFILE



Nigel Fox, senior partner at Clifford Chance, Europe's largest law firm, has an austere image. But, as Carol Leonard discovered, appearances can be deceptive.

RUSSIAN DAWN

After Red Monday and the failed Russian push, Lindsay Cook, Money Editor, looks at the prospects for international investment markets.

WORKING ABROAD

The number of people looking for work abroad has mushroomed. Sara McConnell cautions not to leave home without tying up tax and pensions first.

Pru looks  
at links to  
Salomon

THE Prudential, Britain's biggest investment group, is reviewing links with Salomon Brothers, the American securities house, after the news that Salomon used its clients' names for illegal bids in American Treasury auctions. The Pru said it is not having a formal review, but "reflecting on the situation".

Weir rises 36%

Weir Group, the pump and valve maker, increased pre-tax profits 36.6 per cent to £15.05 million for the six months to end-June. Earnings were 14.4p a share (13p). The interim dividend rises from 2.8p to 3.1p. *Times*, page 23

THE POUND

US dollar 1.6920 (+0.0195)  
German mark 2.9305 (-0.0123)  
Exchange index 90.7 (+0.1)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share 2056.1 (+22.4)  
FT-SE 100 2623.0 (+21.1)  
New York Dow Jones 3007.16 (+5.37)  
Tokyo Nikkei Ave 22515.77 (+464.17)

MAJOR CHANGES

**RISERS:**  
Generali 352 1/2p (+13p)  
Guinness 802 1/2p (+12p)  
Courts Furniture 315 1/2p (+12p)  
Devere Group 263 1/2p (+11p)  
J. Menzies 430 1/2p (+24p)  
Henderson Admin 595p (+15p)  
MAM 765p (+28p)  
Park Foods 250p (+12p)  
Beaspe 437 1/2p (+12p)  
Weir 380p (+28p)  
Sable 321 1/2p (+10p)  
RAC Group 587 1/2p (+28p)  
Redland 590p (+10p)  
Steeley 350 1/2p (+18p)  
BCC 495p (+23p)  
Hartford Senior 250p (+10p)  
Sotobay 782 1/2p (+13p)  
**FALLS:**  
Legal & General 443 1/2p (-11p)  
Sun Alliance 365 1/2p (-10p)  
Royal 405p (-10p)  
Closing Prices...Page 24

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 11%  
3-month interbank 10 1/2%  
3-month eligible bills 10 1/2%  
US: Prime Rate 8 1/4%  
Federal Funds 5 1/4%  
3-month Treasury Bill 5.29-5.27%  
30-year bonds 10 1/2%-10 3/4%

CURRENCIES

London: New York:  
£/\$ 1.6920  
£/DM 2.2775  
£/SwF 2.5564  
£/FF 6.7228  
£/Yen 231.63  
£/Index 56.3  
ECU £0.69986  
£/SDR 1.246726

GOLD

London Fixing:  
AM \$356.50 pm \$356.20  
close \$356.00-356.50 (£210.25-210.75)  
New York:  
Comex \$355.55-357.05

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Sep) \$19.55 bbl (\$19.45)  
Denotes latest trading price

RETAIL PRICES

RPI: 133.8 July (1987=100)

Threat of higher insurance tarnishes mortgage payments boost

# Halifax brings forward cut in yearly rates

By Sara McConnell

THE Halifax, the largest building society, has written to more than a million customers whose mortgages are reviewed annually, telling them that their monthly payments will be cut substantially from September 1. Normally rates would only be cut on request or at the annual review date, which for the Halifax is next February.

Most borrowers would have continued paying at 14.5 per cent until February if there had been no drop but payments will now be recalculated using a rate of 11.95 per cent.

Direct debits will automatically be altered and customers with standing orders will be sent the relevant forms.

A borrower with a £30,000 repayment mortgage will pay £40 a month less, while someone with a £50,000 repayment mortgage will be £80 a month better off.

The society denied there had been government pressure to bring payments down quickly for borrowers so that they did not have to wait until next April to feel the benefit of the six mortgage rate cuts since last February. In May, borrowers were given the option to have their payment adjusted with the next rate cut but they had to ask in their branch.

John MacGregor, leader of the House of Commons, had told the building societies annual conference the day before the Halifax's announcement that cuts in base rates ought to be passed on more quickly to borrowers. Only 10 per cent of the Halifax's 1.2 million customers on annual review have asked for a reduced payment based on a rate of 12.45 per cent.

Under the terms of the budget plan scheme, a review of the payment is normally triggered if rates fall by more than 3 per cent during the

year. Rates have so far fallen by 2.6 per cent this year.

A spokesman for the society said: "We are reducing payments because of the rapid fall in rates. People on the budget plan scheme have now made up the shortfall from last year when they were paying 14.5 per cent and interest rates were 15.4 per cent. They are now back on an even keel. This is not connected with government intervention although it may have an effect on the housing market."

Borrowers can decide to continue with higher payments if they want to reduce their mortgage debt this year but they have to ask specially for this to happen. A borrower who took out a £60,000 mortgage on a budget plan in the summer of 1988 when the mortgage rate was 9.8 per cent and chose not to have his payment altered until next February when next year's annual payment is set will knock £495.95 off the mortgage debt.

John Wriglesworth, building society analyst at UBS Phillips & Drew, said: "This is good news for Halifax customers and good news for the housing market. Every bit helps. It will be pleasing to the government to have the extra money saved from mortgage

payments released into the economy."

The Nationwide, the second largest society, brought down rates for its 400,000 customers on annual review in May. Borrowers felt the effect of the automatic reduction in rates in their June mortgage payment. Payments were calculated using rates of 12.95 per cent for loans of up to £60,000, 12.45 per cent for loans of between £60,000 and £120,000 and 11.95 per cent on loans of more than £120,000. No more reductions are planned before the next annual review in February 1992.

The Leeds Permanent's 420,000 customers on annual review are still making payments based on a rate of 14.5 per cent and the society has no plans to change. Charles Wykes, the Leeds' head of lending, said: "We do not believe it is in our customers' interests to change at this time when our annual review is less than two months away. At the moment, borrowers who are on the system are repaying the underpayment that occurred last year when rates were high. We believe their best course is to continue and to wait for us to notify them of a new payment after the October review."

## Eagle falls to earth with loss of £189 million

By Neil Bennett

EAGLE Star, the insurance group owned by BAT Industries, has crashed to a surprise loss of £189 million after losing £121 million on its mortgage guarantee policies.

The insurer is faced with estimated claims of £165 million from banks and building societies who have suffered losses from repossessing homes during the recession.

Michael Butt, Eagle's chairman and chief executive, blamed the losses on the recession and the slump in housing.

"Adjectives wear thin in these circumstances - unacceptable, unsustainable, or just bloody awful. I prefer the latter," he said.

Mr Butt added that Eagle would discontinue areas of its business unless it was certain they could produce a satisfactory return and the group would start asset disposals if necessary to protect its core business. "I am confident we will restore the business to profitability, but Eagle Star

may be rather smaller than before," he said.

Mr Butt said that Eagle was taking an unfair share of the burden of the state of the housing market. He called for an urgent review of mortgage lending in Britain to stem the losses, or he warned lenders that premiums on mortgage indemnities would have to rise by three or four times.

In the City, analysts were stunned by the losses, which were up to £150 million more than forecast. They will de-

press BAT's own interim results, due early next month.

Eagle Star is one of the main insurers to offer mortgage indemnities, and controls around a fifth of the market. Throughout the Eighties, it earned large profits on its mortgage indemnities because claims were low, repossessions were rare, and the properties were normally sold at a profit. But the rise in repossessions coupled with the collapse in house prices has led to a surge in claims, although no other

insurer has suffered as much as Eagle Star.

Eagle said that the scale of the loss had only become apparent in the middle of this year, when it examined the records of the mortgage lenders it insured. The insurer expects to receive claims from 7,000 repossessed properties. The company also lost £44 million on its financial guarantee policies, which were discontinued last year.



Hit hard by the housing slump: Michael Butt says Eagle's losses are unsustainable

## Record close in London as coup ends

By George Sivel

MIKHAIL Gorbachev's return to power in Moscow attracted institutional buyers back to the London stock market yesterday. Despite a weak early performance on Wall Street, the FT-SE 100 index scraped to a closing high, resuming the record-breaking run that was interrupted by the shakeout on Red Monday, the day the communist hardliners temporarily grasped power.

The FTSE-100 beat last Friday's record close of 2,621.0 to end at 2,623.0, 21.1 points up on the day. The Dow Jones industrial average stood 537 points up at 3,007.16 at lunchtime in New York.

Again the biggest celebration of the end of the coup was in Frankfurt. Germany is the Soviet Union's biggest trading partner and is likely to reap the largest benefits of any acceleration in Moscow's economic reform programmes.

The DAX-30 index recovered 60.01 points to close at 1,630.83, just 20 points below its close last Friday, before the trouble started. On Red Monday, Frankfurt fell 10 per cent.

As markets continued to correct the violent fluctuations of Red Monday, however, the dollar slid against other major currencies. As the dollar fell 3 pence during the day, not helped by poor American economic data, and closed at 1.7280 marks, one London currency trader said: "It's a deusmak fever."

The pound gained against the dollar and closed at \$1.6920 in London, up from \$1.6725. Against the mark, the pound slipped from DM2.9428 to DM2.9305, leaving the trade-weighted index at 90.7, up 0.1 on the day.

Gold and oil prices were stable. Gold ended at \$356.50 an ounce, little changed from \$356.25 on Wednesday. Oil, which had jumped more than \$2 during the troubles, was stable again.

The October futures contract for Brent Blend crude traded eight cents higher at \$19.72 a barrel.

Comment, page 23

Stock markets, page 25

## Treasury confident despite current account setback

By Colin Nibbrough, Economics Correspondent

THE current account was back in deficit last month after a small surplus in June, but the government remains confident that the trend shows exports growing while imports stagnate.

Official figures put the seasonally adjusted July deficit at £165 million after the first surplus in four years, of £23 million, the previous month. The July deterioration reflected a fall in exports from a record £9.03 billion to £8.88 billion. Imports were up £43 million to £9.45 billion.

But the trade was largely offset by a projected £400 million surplus on invisible services, travel and shipping. In June, the visible trade gap was £377 million.

Financial markets, preoccu-

pled with the situation in the Soviet Union after the failed takeover, ignored the data. The deficit was, however, smaller than expected.

A rise in imports of consumer goods last month was seen by some analysts as evidence of reviving consumer demand, on which the government forecast of imminent recovery rests.

Stripped of oil and erratic items, such as aircraft and gems, the visible trade balance showed a deficit of £1.06 billion, after a £727 million shortfall in June, bringing the monthly deficit back to the £1 billion-plus level it has been stuck at for most of this year, despite deep recession.

Fears persist that this could represent the best Britain can achieve, before recovery starts to boost import demand and

redirect manufacturers' attention to the home market, widening the trade gap.

The government has forecast a current account deficit of £6 billion for 1991, against £13.8 billion last year. After the first seven months, the deficit stands at £3.68 billion.

The Treasury said trade in manufactured goods showed a deficit of £100 million in the latest three months, the lowest since the third quarter of 1982. Car exports have surged while demand for imported vehicles slumped.

In the latest three months, export volumes, excluding oil and minerals, rose 2 per cent to stand 3.5 per cent above the same period last year. On the same basis, imports were unchanged.

Comment, page 23

## CapCo seeks £102m

By Jonathan Prynn

CAPITAL & Counties, the retail property developer, has launched a three-for-ten rights issue to raise £102 million to strengthen its balance sheet.

Transatlantic Holdings, CapCo's 80 per cent shareholder, has agreed to take up its entitlement in full and has underwritten the remainder. CapCo gave warning that continuing weakness in the property market would result in a 25 per cent reduction in net asset values at the year end.

Pre-tax profits for the six months to end-June fell from £24 million to £19.9 million and the interim dividend is reduced from 6p to 5p. The company expects to pay a total dividend of not less than 10p (13.2p).

Times, page 23

## Post Office turns queues into cash

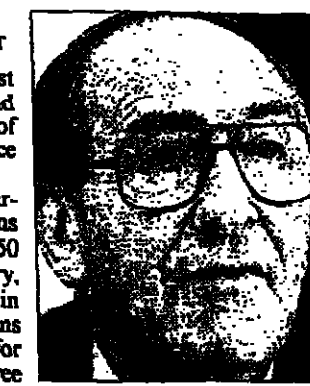
By Ross Tiesman

INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

CUSTOMERS of the Post Office have always found counter queues a waste of time. Now the Post Office finds them a waste of space.

Sir Bryan Nicholson, chairman of the Post Office, plans to develop another 250 Postshops selling stationery, greeting cards and gifts in main post offices. Promotions will include free stamps for those buying cards, and a free pen for the first 250 customers at the till of every newly opened "shop".

Whether Postshops will pose a serious commercial challenge to the likes of Ryman and WH Smith remains to be seen. Critics might argue that Post Office counters is simply seeking to cash in on the amount of time



Sir Bryan: five-year plan

people spend in counter queues by substituting display racks for the queue fences introduced in recent years. The Post Office, however, was canny enough to couple the announcement of its five-year Postshops plan with a promise to recruit more part-

time staff to reduce the number of empty counter positions at busy periods.

The ability to free space used queues for retail use has become an incentive to efficiency. According to Post Office research, the average waiting time for service at a main Post Office has been reduced to 93 seconds, and 97 per cent of customers are served within five minutes.

Over the past seven years, 76 Postshops have been established within main Post Offices. Some have separate entrances and shop fronts. Others simply fill spare space with display racks and a till.

The amount of space devoted to the Postshop operation varies from branch to branch. Each has between 40ft and 65ft of racks displaying greetings cards and from 13ft

to 20ft of racks carrying 275 lines of stationery.

Paul Rich, Post Office Counters' head of business development, said: "We want people to think of Postshops as the place to go for all their stationery needs, from gift ideas to office requirements."

A Post Office spokeswoman stressed the retailing ambitions were independent of the debate about ending the Post Office's mail monopoly. Peter Warry, who used to work in Mrs Thatcher's Number 10 policy unit, will today publish proposals for privatisation of the Post Office under the banner of the Centre for Policy Studies. Mr Warry suggests deliveries within Royal Mail's 64 existing postal districts should be put out to tender under a franchise system and Parcelforce sold off.

## YOU could benefit from a safety-first investment in Swiss Francs

In times of uncertainty, many investors around the world choose to move into investments denominated in Swiss Francs.

The Swiss Franc is internationally recognised as one of the world's strongest safe-haven currencies, and it has historically enjoyed a low exposure to political and economic risk.

You too can protect a part of your capital, and obtain the benefit of investing in first-class Swiss Franc denominated bonds and deposits - by purchasing units in the conservative investment scheme of B.I.A. Bond Investments AG.

"B.I.A." is a well known Swiss investment company, and its scheme is recognised by the UK Securities and Investments Board, listed on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange, and authorised in Hong Kong.

B.I.A.'s Swiss Franc bond scheme is similar to a unit trust. Investors benefit from any increase in B.I.A.'s Swiss Franc denominated unit prices and from any currency gain that may arise.

B.I.A.'s investment portfolio of first class Swiss Franc bonds and deposits is conservatively managed to maximise capital growth. Income is reinvested.

B.I.A.'s anonymous "bearer" units can be bought or sold at any time. B.I.A.'s prices are quoted daily in the FT in Swiss Francs - each unit now costs about £400.

Further details are available to investors and advisers from B.I.A.'s representatives, International Investment Consultants Ltd., who have approved this advertisement.

Please note that the price of units can go down as well as up, and investors may not get back the amount that they invested. The Sterling value of units will increase or decrease depending on exchange rate movements.



Please send me information on B.I.A.  
To: David Burden, Marketing Director, International Investment Consultants Ltd.,  
30 Finsbury Square, London EC2A 1SB  
Telephone: 071-638 2540 or 071-588 1932. Fax: 071-628 2472.

Mr/Ms/Miss

Address

Postcode

B.I.A. Bond Investments AG, Switzerland



TT 2308



## Ferro and ICI to pool assets

ICI and Ferro Corporation of America have reached agreement to pool their powder coating assets in a joint venture with estimated sales of about \$200 million a year.

Headquartered in Cleveland, Ohio, where Ferro is also based, the new venture will be split 51-49 per cent between ICI and Ferro respectively. Both companies will be pooling sites and assets in Europe, North America and the Asia Pacific region rather than injecting new cash.

ICI said the value of its assets being put into the venture represents less than 1 per cent of the ICI group.

## Hang Seng Bank ahead 22%

Hang Seng Bank, the 61.5 per cent-owned subsidiary of HSBC Holdings, formerly Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corp, yesterday announced after-tax profits up 22 per cent to HK\$794.1 million (£61 million) after transfers to secret reserves. Analysts had forecast a rise of between 15 and 20 per cent.

Earnings per share for the six months to end-June were 66.8 cents. An interim dividend of 27 cents will be paid, up 20 per cent from last year.

## Lasmo quits US

Lasmo, the independent oil company, is selling its American interests, comprising onshore production facilities concentrated mainly in east Texas and Louisiana. The group said in view of the small size of the interests, they were being sold and exploration and production concentrated in Britain and internationally.

## Payout held

Shorco Group Holdings, the plant hire company, is holding its interim dividend at 2.4p, despite a 72 per cent drop in first half pre-tax profits to £115,000 for the six months to end-June. Earnings per share of 2.5p (9.1p) barely cover the interim payout. Turnover fell 9 per cent to £3.3 million.

## OFT extension

Sir Gordon Borrie, the director general of fair trading, has extended the period for consideration of the hostile bid by Whyte & Mackay for Invergordon Distillers by 10 working days, to September 19.

## T Clarke slides

T Clarke, the electrical engineer and contractor, saw interim pre-tax profits fall by 45 per cent to £1.2 million in the six months to June. An interim dividend of 1.26p (1.2p) is to be paid.

## ASB returns

Shares of ASB Barnett Kinings, the advertising and recruitment group, suspended at 23p on June 3 for talks on an acquisition, returned at 14p after the talks ended.

# Higher loan costs push News Int to £335m loss

By OUR CITY STAFF

THE News Corporation, the Australian international media group headed by Rupert Murdoch, will have to remain "a lean company" if it is to meet the debt repayment requirements of its bankers over the next two years, Peter Steinhilber, an executive director of the British-based News International, said yesterday.

News International, the British subsidiary that owns *The Times*, incurred higher interest charges and exceptional costs including a substantial amount of re-financing charges in the year ended June 30, and yesterday reported a net loss for the 1991 financial year of £335.4 million (£276.8 million loss). At the operating level, profits of News International rose from £62.2 million to £65 million.

Economic conditions, as they affect the media, are not expected to improve during the next year, News Corp said. Operating profits should, however, improve as a result of cost reductions and other consolidation moves that have already been made.

The refinancing of News Corp's \$7.6 billion debt via a new three-year banking agreement, and the arrangement of a new short-term \$600 million credit facility to finance working capital, had been a primary focus for senior management in the year. Considerable progress in meeting repayment obligations had been made, News Corp added, and outstanding debt has been reduced by \$780 million since February.

News Corp's results for the year to end-June show that revenues rose by 25.2 per cent to Aus\$10.97 billion and net operating profits, before abnormal items, by 13.8 per cent to Aus\$321.3 million. The net interest charge struck against profits was Aus\$1.17 billion (Aus\$951.5 million).

Abnormal items totalling Aus\$714.2 million, including Aus\$193.2 million of re-financing costs, Aus\$287.1 million net losses on asset sales, and Aus\$65.3 million of redundancy and closure costs.

meant News Corp showed a net loss of Aus\$392.9 million (Aus\$343.3 million profit).

A final dividend of 5 cents a share makes an unchanged 10 cents. The final dividend paid on the special dividend shares of News International, which is the sterling equivalent of dividends paid by News Corp, is 2.3775p, making 4.6977p (4.3617p) for the year.

News Corp shares, which advanced by 17p on Wednesday, rose a further 10p to 440p. News International shares were 4p higher at 148p. Revenue and operating profit increases had been achieved despite recessions in all the major markets in which it operates, News Corp said. In Britain, the recession adversely affected advertising revenues, and operating profits of the newspaper and magazine divisions fell by 26 per cent.

British Sky Broadcasting remains on course to break even before the end of 1993. Weekly losses of BSkyB, which had been in excess of Aus\$20 million, have been reduced to less than Aus\$3.5 million, and continue to fall. The group's portion of BSkyB's losses was Aus\$11.9 million for the six weeks ending June 30.

Twentieth Century Fox Film achieved record results, but there were further losses at Ansett Transport Industries. News Corp sold eight American magazines and one newspaper for \$650 million, and made further asset sales that brought in \$185 million. Group staff levels were reduced by 19 per cent to 31,200 in the year.

Mr Steinhilber said News Corp had virtually achieved its commitment to repay \$800 million of debt before February. Further debt reductions of \$400 million are required by June 30 and December 30, 1992, and by June 30, 1993.

The group's interest bill is expected to fall in the current financial year because of the influences of positive cash flow, asset sales, and lower interest rates, Mr Steinhilber said.

## Rentokil stays on target



Defying recession: Clive Thompson, chief executive of Rentokil, is still on course

## Invesco interims steady at £14.7m

By NEIL BENNETT, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

THE cost of opening offices in Hong Kong and Tokyo caused pre-tax profits at Invesco MIM, the fund management group chaired by Lord Stevens of Ludgate, to fall by £400,000 to £14.7 million in the first half of the year.

The result is, however, a significant recovery on the second half of last year, when the invasion of Kuwait and the subsequent decline in stock markets worldwide caused a profits decline to £4.04 million. The half-year dividend is unchanged at 2.3p.

During the half, Invesco opened an investment trust business in Japan, and has raised three funds worth a total \$300 million. The office is selling a further three funds and is expected to start to break even by the middle of next year, as is the smaller Hong Kong operation. In

Britain, Invesco has been forced to make an extraordinary provision of £3.2 million against its stake in Drayton Consolidated, the investment trust whose share price has plunged. Drayton, which focuses on unquoted investments, stands at a 54 per cent discount to net assets and a further £4 million below Invesco's reduced valuation.

The group continued to attract funds in Britain and America which, together with the rise in share prices around the world, increased funds under management to £32 billion from £24 billion a year ago.

IMI, the Italian financial group, became a 10.3 per cent shareholder in Invesco to cement the companies' joint venture in Italy. IMI joins Mitsui and Daiwa, the Japanese life companies, as significant investors.

RENTOKIL Group, the environmental and property care concern, is again on course to meet the 20 per cent annual earnings growth target imposed by Clive Thompson, its chief executive, in spite of the recession.

In the six months to end-June, pre-tax profits rose by 22.8 per cent to £42.3 million and earnings increased by 25.2 per cent to 6.96p a share. The interim dividend is 1.33p (1.06p).

Group turnover increased from £149 million to £192 million through organic growth and acquisitions.

In the UK, which now accounts for less than half of operating profits, earnings grew by 13.1 per cent to £19 million, although progress in environmental services was offset by disappointing results from property services, reflecting the depressed property market.

In Asia Pacific and Africa profits rose from £5.03 million to £8.93 million, while North America contributed £3.22 million, against £2.4 million. European profits were £11.02 million, up from £8.3 million.

## BUSINESS ROUNDUP

### Strong yen cuts Sony profit in first quarter

THE strength of the yen and weak audio and video markets cut group pre-tax profit at the Sony Corporation from 70.27 billion yen to 56.20 billion yen (£246 million) in the first quarter to June 30. A Sony official said, however: "Our results in the first quarter were much better than industry analysts' forecasts of a 40 to 50 per cent decline."

Sony has lowered its forecast for group net profit for the full year to ¥105 billion from an earlier forecast of ¥120 billion, against ¥116.93 billion in the previous year, and its operating profit estimate to about ¥300 billion from ¥320 billion, against ¥297.45 billion. Sony's forecast for group sales remained unchanged at ¥4,000 billion against ¥3,620 billion last time.

### JW Spear pays again

JW SPEAR & Sons, manufacturer and distributor of games including Scrabble, is paying an interim dividend for the first time in ten years after seasonal losses for the six months to end-June were reduced to £850,000 before tax to £658,000. Losses were 7.71p a share (10.21p loss). The board recommends a dividend of 2p a share for the first half. Turnover rose from £7.02 million to £8.37 million.

### Cattle's ahead at £3.8m

CATTLE'S, the consumer credit group, lifted pre-tax profits by 4 per cent to £3.87 million in the half year to end-June, despite higher bad debts in its hire purchase and leasing division. Earnings per share, however, fell 26 per cent to 2.43p after the £18.2 million rights issue in December. The interim dividend is held at 1.5p a share. Cattle's said its hire purchase business was hit by the high level of receiverships.

### Holographics issue

APPLIED Holographics, which has not made a profit since joining the USM in 1984, has asked shareholders for £2.2 million to bolster its balance sheet. It has launched a one-for-three rights issue at 50p a share against a market price of 80p. Successful losses and write-offs have made it difficult to secure adequate working capital facilities, it said.

The hologram maker also announced a pre-tax loss of £2.6 million (£2.8 million) in the year to end-March. After extraordinary items relating to restructuring costs, the loss is £3.8 million (£2.5 million). There is again no dividend.

### Asia rises by HK\$16.7m

ASIA, the 60.7 per cent owned associate of Beazer, the builder, has reported pre-tax profits of HK\$104.7 million (£7.9 million) for the year to end-June, up from HK\$88 million. A final dividend of 16 cents makes a total of 26 cents, a 30 per cent increase on last year. The directors said the long-term outlook was good. Last month Asia shares were suspended for a time on the Hong Kong stock exchange.

### BOC sells US loss-maker

BOC Group, the industrial gases and healthcare company, is to sell nearly one third of its loss-making American Glascock Home Health Care business for \$30 million to various buyers. BOC said the effect of the disposals, with related rationalisation costs, will be charged to the profit and loss account in the fourth quarter. Glascock's poor performance dented BOC's nine-month figures.

### STOCK MARKET INDEXES

Index	23 Aug	22 Aug	21 Aug	20 Aug	19 Aug
FTSE 100	2,890.40	2,885.40	2,885.40	2,885.40	2,885.40
FTSE 250	1,140.00	1,140.00	1,140.00	1,140.00	1,140.00
FTSE 1000	1,140.00	1,140.00	1,140.00	1,140.00	1,140.00
FTSE 10000	1,140.00	1,140.00	1,140.00	1,140.00	1,140.00
FTSE 100000	1,140.00	1,140.00	1,140.00	1,140.00	1,140.00

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FTSE 10000	1,140.00	1,140.00	1,140.00	1,140.00	1,140.00
FTSE 100000	1,140.00	1,140.00	1,140.00	1,140.00	1,140.00

## ALTERATION TO INTEREST RATE

The Royal Bank of Scotland plc announces that the monthly rate of interest charged to its Access, MasterCard and Visa cardholders will be decreased from 2.2% to 2% per month (equivalent to an annual percentage rate of 26.8%) with effect from 2 September 1991. From that date the new rate will be applied to all interest-bearing balances, cash advances and purchases attracting interest for the first time. The first sentence of Condition 6 (i) of The Royal Bank of Scotland Access, MasterCard and Visa Conditions of Use are amended accordingly.

## The Royal Bank of Scotland

The Royal Bank of Scotland plc  
Registered Office: 36 St. Andrew Square,  
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## Suit filed on BCCI 'founders'

A DEPOSITOR in the Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI) has filed a class action lawsuit against what he claims were the failed bank's founders and two British accountants, Price Waterhouse and Ernst & Young.

Akhtar Hamid, who had deposits of \$140,000 with BCCI, filed a suit in the federal court in Los Angeles against the Emir of Abu Dhabi and BankAmerica, claiming they helped found BCCI. The suit also named the accountants, as well as Agha Hasan Ali, Swaleh Nagvi and Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan al-Nahyan, the ruler of Abu Dhabi.

BankAmerica would not comment directly, but in a response to a similar suit filed in San Francisco, the bank said it had no suspicion or knowledge of illegal activity by BCCI, although in 1972 it had provided some initial funding.

Three potential buyers are bidding to take over Bank of Credit and Commerce of Hong Kong, which could be sold within two months. The bidders are believed to include the local Ka Wah Bank.

## BAe wins \$750m order for Japanese rescue jets

By ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH Aerospace has won a \$750 million order to supply 27 125-800 business jets to the Japan Air Self Defence Force. The modified aircraft will be used to locate ditched pilots.

The contract is a breakthrough for BAe because it is the first time a business jet has been modified to carry out search and rescue missions and it weakens American dominance in aircraft sales to the JASDF.

Production of the 800 series at BAe's commercial aircraft factory in Chester, which employs 2,500 people, will be secured in the next decade.

BAe is optimistic that other governments will follow the Japanese lead in buying modified commercial aircraft for search and rescue work.

The Royal Air Force, which helped BAe win the JASDF order, operates Nimrod aircraft in a dual role for hunting submarines and maritime rescue.

BAe says the 125-800 can carry out the search function for a fifth of the cost of Nimrod, and argues that a separate search fleet would allow the life of Nimrod to be

prolonged. The Japanese have been encouraged to replace older and slower propeller-driven Mitsubishi MU2 aircraft by their failure to recover two ditched pilots this year.

Japan's long coastline makes the 125 jets, with their greater speed and eight-hour endurance, especially attractive.

The search and rescue contract is the second of three won by BAe as the Japanese replace MU2 in four roles.

The company beat competition from Cessna and Lear of America and Dassault of France.

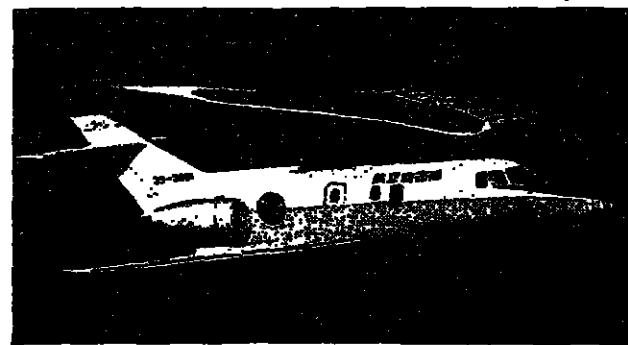
BAe also revealed that it

was expanding its Japanese operations to promote a wider range of the company's aviation products.

The group has a collaboration agreement with Kawasaki Heavy Industries, which manufactures fuselage sections for Airbus Industrie under its supervision. BAe is a leading partner in Airbus.

The JASDF 125s will be fitted with Garrett turbofans from America. A radar has yet to be chosen.

However, BAe estimated that 80 per cent of the contract, by value, would accrue to British manufacturers.



BAe breakthrough: artist's impression of the 125 jet

## DAF seeks £60m as losses double

By ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

DAF, the Anglo-Dutch lorry manufacturer, is to raise at least 200 million guilders (£60.6 million) through a preference share issue. The group also said pre-tax losses had doubled in the half to end-June to £180 million.

Since DAF has only 29 million shares in issue, conversion of the planned underwritten issue of convertible cumulative preference shares could result in considerable dilution of equity. Pressure for an increase in equity was heightened by a doubling of interest payments, to £16.8 million. Weaker demand for

trucks in every main European market except Germany, where DAF has a small share, was blamed for the higher losses.

Turnover rose 6.9 per cent to £1.245 billion on increased contributions from special products and sales of components. Truck production at Eindhoven in The Netherlands and Leyland, Lancashire, fell 25.5 per cent to 11,305.

Output of vans, built in Birmingham, fell 16.3 per cent to 10,079. Job losses, spread equally between Britain and The Netherlands, totalled 601 during the first half.

## Warning given on worthless bonds

By LINDSAY COOK, MONEY EDITOR

DENIS Child, chairman of the investors' compensation scheme, told investors yesterday in his annual report that a new type of bond being sold can be worthless when companies issuing it fail.

He said investors who buy bonds or certificates of indebtedness from an investment firm cannot be paid out by the scheme, as they did not qualify as investment business under the Financial Services Act.

He said: "A particular problem has arisen for investors who have purchased bonds or certificates of indebtedness issued by an investment firm.

Investors should consider carefully whether the firm is of sufficient substance to be able to meet its bonds or certificates. We have found that many of these so-called bonds or certificates are worthless when a firm goes into default."

The investors' compensation scheme paid out £1.8 million last year to the clients of companies declared in default. A further £2.9 million has been paid out since March 31. Since the scheme was started in August 1988, it has paid out £7.9 million to 1,400 investors.



## Second go at Soviet reform

### COMMENT

The blood spilt in Russia's second revolution has barely dried. There are many unanswered questions but already Western observers of Moscow business feel it is full steam ahead for foreign investment, although they give a warning that hardliners will still be around to hamper the reform process as and when they see fit.

Heartened by the prospect of a truly liberal leadership emerging in the Kremlin, Western politicians, including John Major, have already urged a rethink on Western assistance to the Soviet Union. At the Group of Seven summit in London last month the West rightly insisted that the first steps towards economic and political reform had to come from within the Soviet Union, and attempts should not be made to initiate reform from outside with generous aid packages.

Before G7 there had been widespread, if not interminable, debate in the Soviet Union over which plan to adopt for economic reform. President Gorbachev was criticised by his own people for stalling economic reform, but

it is only apparent with hindsight how much his efforts were hindered by the hardliners in the Communist party.

So now the debate returns to which plan the Soviets should adopt. The most credible plan before the abortive coup was drawn up by Grigory Yavlinsky, a former Russian deputy prime minister, and a group of eminent American economists from Harvard University.

The attractions of the plan, although widely misunderstood by western leaders at the time, are the conditions attached to assistance, foreseen to vary between \$20 billion and \$35 billion a year.

The plan foresees two stages. The first, estimated to last just over two years, would involve further price liberalisation, firm steps towards currency convertibility, cuts in the budget deficit, and the start of privatisation.

In turn, the Soviet Union would receive western assistance,

initially at the higher end of the scale, to make up for the production capacity lost in the early stages of reform. The second stage assumes further progress on privatisation, a fully convertible rouble, and with it a switch of western assistance away from financing imports towards stabilising the Soviet currency.

It is now up to the new Russian and Soviet leadership to convince Western bankers and politicians that they can grasp the reform opportunity that was dashed from their hand before. This, in turn, would help persuade the minds of the Western doubters on helping and investing in the Soviet economy.

But assuming the Yavlinsky plan, or an intelligent variation of it, emerges, it also remains to be seen who administers Western aid efforts. The Organisation for

Economic Co-operation and Development, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the IMF and the World Bank all have a role to play.

### Recovery

City scribblers scrutinising the trade figures for signs of the consumer-led recovery that the Chancellor insists we shall yet see this year did not go unrewarded. Imports of cars, other consumer goods and food and drink showed increases. Was the consumer staging a comeback? Provisional retail sales data for June and July certainly suggested something along those lines, with successive gains of 1.5 and 0.3 per cent.

Surveys of consumer confidence add further support.

The focus on renewed demand for imported consumer goods stems from a desire to see predictions fulfilled of a worsening trade deficit after the recession bottoms out. After all, recovery would bring an automatic deterioration, as foreign goods fill our shelves in increasing amounts. For Mr Lamont it might be good news, even if it meant a bigger current account deficit. It would be evidence for the electorate of the promised recovery.

Although former chancellors have dismissed the current account as an irrelevance, many City economists are convinced that a widening deficit places an undesirable restraint on monetary policy. Surely, more scope is needed, not less now Britain is in the European exchange-rate mechanism.

An alternative scenario meanwhile sees consumer

demand remaining so weak this year that Mr Lamont will have to look elsewhere for his motor of recovery. Exports would be the locomotive. The trend still shows them on an upward path.

### Eagle dives

During the Eighties, Eagle Star's management placed a bomb in its balance sheet. Yesterday it exploded.

Eagle Star sold mortgage indemnity policies aggressively and captured almost a fifth of the market. Unfortunately, its premiums never reflected the likelihood of a recession, or a fall in house prices. The consequence is the £189 million loss.

Other insurers showed more foresight than Eagle Star. Commercial Union withdrew from the mortgage indemnity market two years ago, while Royal charges substantially higher premiums.

Sir Patrick Sheehy, BAT's chairman, must feel distinctly uncomfortable, and the temptation to shake up Eagle Star's board will be strong.

## Business backs its future by training the workers

**John Banham says that in spite of the recession, Britain has been busy increasing the skills of its workforce**



Leading role: John Banham's CBI has shown the way in the skills revolution

GOOD news on the economic front is not exactly in plentiful supply at present. But there is some around for those examining the latest CBI quarterly industrial trends survey results in detail.

British business is continuing to increase its spending on skills-training from record levels. This year will see British business spend more than £18 billion on training—more than UK corporate income after allowing for taxes, interest and dividends. This has surprised some commentators given what happened a decade ago when training spending collapsed in a recession.

But almost three-quarters of businesses plan to maintain or increase expenditure on training over the next year, according to the latest CBI survey, despite the fact that manufacturers are planning to cut capital investment. Though our question on training has only been running for about two years, the survey has a well-earned reputation for accuracy and its findings are supported by those of other surveys.

The fact is that employers are embarking on the skills revolution launched by the CBI's training task force, chaired by Sir Bryan Nicholson, two years ago. Increasingly they are treating training as an essential investment rather than an optional cost. They know that, in many cases, survival in the Nineties depends on the added value of their workforces, given the intensifying challenge of global competition.

Talk to busy chief executives about their training plans and you are likely to find the issue near the top of their agendas. They will be concerned with targeting training on employees who need it to meet business objectives.

They will be using cost-effective techniques, such as open learning, and training to standards of competence required in the workplace. Training will be job-centred, but will also include transferable skills for the future.

All in all, businesses are taking control of their own training. As a response to recession they will be using fewer expensive "off-the-peg" residential courses and concentrating more on cost-effective and relevant training in-house.

What other business challenge has caused 1,200 leading

teenage employment without training disappears.

The new "investors in people" national standard is a seal of approval of good practice now on offer to all businesses with effective training strategies in place. The management charter initiative helps ensure that management education and development keeps pace with these changes.

The national vocational qualifications (NVQs), available for 80 per cent of employees by next year, should be state of the art recognition of the competence workers must

not only in Europe and North America, but also by Pacific Rim nations such as Korea.

Secondly, the recession makes life harder for all. It is not easy to invest when business is bad. It is not surprising that short-term cash flow needs sometimes to overcome long-term imperatives—for many, a 5 per cent fall in sales translates into a bottom line tab of 20 per cent or more. Many small firms have had to cut back on training in the fight for survival.

But overall the news is good. The CBI has just brokered an agreement involving over 100 organisations in education and training on world class targets for Britain's skills by the year 2000: 80 per cent of young people should be qualified to four good GCSEs or an equivalent NVQ level and 50 per cent should reach higher education entry standard. There are equally demanding targets for adults and training performance by employers.

These world class targets are ambitious. They are fully supported by the government and they show where UK plc needs to be in skill terms to be competitive. And they are achievable, but only if businesses treat training as an investment, rather than a cost. The author is director general of the Confederation of British Industry

**This year British business will spend more than £18 billion on training**

chief executives to work together to turn our performance around? That is what has happened with the training and enterprise councils (TECs) that have the job of ensuring local labour markets deliver what businesses need.

The recession has made life harder for TECs, but they are on the road to success. They are using market forces to improve the quality and take-up of training. The new training credits, which will be given to every school-leaver by 1996, empower them as customers and should ensure that

have if Britain is to maintain and enhance living standards.

But these positive developments leave no room for complacency. In the first place, the efforts now being made are needed to overcome the deficit of years of relative neglect. This is scarcely surprising. For generations the wage premium for skills has been lower in Britain than any other OECD country, while vocational skills are not, in general, seen as important as academic accomplishments. As a result, we have been left behind by our competitors.

## A long-term view of CapCo

A HEAVY rights issue from a property company specialising in the retail sector, launched at a not particularly deep discount, does not immediately come to mind as a candidate for investment opportunity of the year in today's markets. However, the £102 million, three-for-ten cash call announced yesterday by Capital & Counties is assured of an impressive take-up.

The company is 82 per cent owned by TransAtlantic Holdings, which has pledged to take up its rights. TransAtlantic, which shares a chairman with CapCo in Donald Gordon, is also underwriting the rest of the issue, saving CapCo a much-needed £500,000. CapCo needs the money because weak letting progress in the second and third quarters of the year at its three big retail developments is putting a strain on the balance sheet.

The company has projected a further 14 per cent reduction in the value of its property investments at the year end, implying a 25 per cent fall in net assets before the effects of the rights issue are taken into

account. Net assets per share, on that basis, could fall to 340p this year, putting the shares on a relatively thin discount of about 24 per cent to projected net assets before dilution. The net asset value could fall to 295p on a fully diluted basis, suggesting that the shares still have further to fall after yesterday's drop from 297p to 273p.

Shareholders who decide to take up their rights, in what is a thinly traded stock, should also bear in mind that TransAtlantic's underwriting role means that its stake is almost certain to increase. Given that an offer for the minority shareholdings is probably less likely after the rights issue, only genuinely long-term investors will benefit from holding on to their shares. And, in this stock, long-term could mean 1994 at the earliest.

### Weir Group

RECESSION? What recession? So asks Ron Garrick, chief executive of Weir Group, and he is not joking. While Britain flounders in the depths of a slump that has hit



Garrick: cheer at Weir

the engineering sector particularly hard, Weir, manufacturer of pumps and valves, merrily continues producing the sort of earnings growth that would have been difficult to match even at the height of the Eighties boom.

A 36.6 per cent advance in pre-tax profits to £15.05 million at the halfway stage beat market expectations and triggered a 28p rise in the shares to a 12-month high of 380p. Earnings rose by a more modest 10.8 per cent to 14.4p a share because of the effect of last year's timely £30 million

rights issue but comfortably support an rise in the interim dividend from 2.8p to 3.1p.

Pessimistic analysts say growth cannot continue at the same pace, given the continuation of recessionary conditions, but hard evidence suggests otherwise. Order intake of £297 million was a record for the company that derives just 40 per cent of earnings from Britain.

Although the oil industry is unlikely to repeat the peak levels of activity seen last year, British business is supported by investment in the water industry while overseas projects such as a £70 million desalination plant in Dubai appear plentiful.

The company has almost £22 million in the bank and in the past has proved adept at making wise acquisitions in niche sectors.

The market now appears to have caught up with events at Weir. The shares trade at a premium rating of almost 13 times prospective earnings of 30p this year and given the company's limited gearing to an economic recovery they look fully valued.

## EAGLE STAR

### INTERIM RESULTS 1991

- The pre-tax loss of £189m for the six months to June 1991 reflects a significant deterioration in UK domestic mortgage indemnity insurance and continued high levels of other claims, resulting in underwriting losses at unacceptable levels affecting the whole general insurance market.
- The current severe recession, coinciding with the depressed property market, has caused a dramatic increase in the number of properties being repossessed by lenders. Detailed examination of the implications has led Eagle Star to provide £121m for losses on domestic mortgage indemnity business.
- The losses we have incurred on domestic mortgage indemnities demonstrate the urgent need for changes in lending practice and in the nature of insurance cover provided as well as premium increases.
- Eagle Star's Life business continues to perform well achieving growth in new annual premiums in spite of a contracting market.
- Eagle Star is determined to maintain its financial strength and will exit from classes of business where it is unable to negotiate acceptable terms.
- We are accelerating a major action programme to achieve reductions in expenses, higher productivity and to restore profitability.

EAGLE STAR HOLDINGS PLC IS A MEMBER OF THE B.A.T. INDUSTRIES GROUP  
For more information please contact The Secretary, 60 St Mary Axe, London EC3A 8JQ. Tel. 071-929 1111.

## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

### Now arriving at Greig

GREIG Middleton, the regional broker, has filled the vacancy for a building analyst created when Lawrence Ambold and Leslie Kent defected to Carr, Kitch & Aitken in June. The new analyst is Michael Foster, a Cambridge geography graduate, who joins from Eagle Star where he ran the environmental opportunities fund. He is also a scrippophile, a collector of old bonds. Foster began his City career at British Rail Pension Funds, in an office above Liverpool Street station. "We heard all the anonymous comments," says Foster, who is working with Andy Ritchie, specialist building salesman, in what hopefully will be more peaceful surroundings.

NOTICE at an Essex church: "In six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all in them." Chalked below: "He was self-employed."

Dray astray PANIC quickly turned to elation at Scottish & Newcastle Breweries after a lorry



laden with beer disappeared en route to Moscow. The truck, carrying 10,000 pints of Newcastle Brown Ale and 13,000 pints of Taran Bitter, was on its way to supply two S&N public houses when it vanished on Tuesday night. It was finally traced to the outskirts of the Soviet capital where soldiers had halted all traffic into the city. Now free, the lorry was due to deliver last night at The Brown Bear, S&N's public house near the Soviet parliament, and its sister pub, The Galaxy, just in time for the celebrations.

### Phanresight

DOES Angus Phaire, building analyst at County NatWest, know something we do not? In his latest circular, he recalls "After the October 1917 uprising, there was such a fear of another Bolshevik revolution that London was swept with

rumours that Russians had been spotted marching down Piccadilly with snow on their feet." He goes on to suggest that we have as much chance of seeing the Russians in London as an end to the recession. Topical stuff, especially since it was written last week—with the world looking everywhere but the Soviet Union.

### Long-term finance

WHAT do Kleinwort Benson and the Illinois Central Railroad have in common? Try 130 years of history. The Chicago office of KB has arranged a \$160 million placement for Illinois Central, continuing a relationship from the 1850s. Then, Robert Benson granted \$17 million to Illinois Central. David, his great-grandson and vice-chairman of KB, is delighted to have been of service again.

JON ASHWORTH



مَكَزْ اَمِنْ الْأَصْلِ







## MONEY MARKETS

Exchange index compared with 1985 was up at 90.7 (day's range 90.5-90.7).

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Aug 22	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
American dollar	3.2904-3.3009	3.3039-3.3049	4-wk 9p	11-wk 1p
Brussels	11.207-11.211	11.207-11.211	4-wk 9p	11-wk 1p
Copenhagen	1.0950-1.0960	1.0950-1.0960	4-wk 9p	11-wk 1p
Dublin	2.5020-2.5030	2.5020-2.5030	4-wk 9p	11-wk 1p
Frankfurt	2.5020-2.5030	2.5020-2.5030	4-wk 9p	11-wk 1p
London	2.5020-2.5030	2.5020-2.5030	4-wk 9p	11-wk 1p
Madrid	1.9130-1.9140	1.9130-1.9140	4-wk 9p	11-wk 1p
Paris	2.5020-2.5030	2.5020-2.5030	4-wk 9p	11-wk 1p
Stockholm	1.0950-1.0960	1.0950-1.0960	4-wk 9p	11-wk 1p
Zurich	2.5020-2.5030	2.5020-2.5030	4-wk 9p	11-wk 1p

Source: Bank of England

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rate: Clearing Banks 11% Finance Min 11%  
Discount Market Loans: Overnight 11% Low 11% Weak Rate: 10%  
Treasury bills (91-day): 8-wk 10% 10-wk 10% 3-wk 10%

Prime Bank Rate (City)	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%
Banking Money Rate	11-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%
Interbank	11-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%
Overnight open 11%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%
Local Authority Rate	11-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%
Banking Cash	11-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%
Banking Deposit	11-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%
Banking Rate (City)	11-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

7 day	1 month	3 month	6 month	12 month
Bank of England	11-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%
Bank of France	11-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%
Bank of Germany	11-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%
Bank of Italy	11-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%
Bank of Japan	11-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%
Bank of Netherlands	11-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%
Bank of Spain	11-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%
Bank of Sweden	11-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%
Bank of Switzerland	11-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%
Bank of Belgium	11-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%
Bank of Denmark	11-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%
Bank of Greece	11-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%
Bank of Ireland	11-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%
Bank of Luxembourg	11-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%
Bank of Portugal	11-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%
Bank of Turkey	11-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%
Bank of Yugoslavia	11-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%	10-wk 10%

GOLD AND PRECIOUS METALS

Gold: Open 357.20-357.20	Close 357.20-357.20	High 357.20-357.20	Low 357.20-357.20
Silver: Open 357.20-357.20	Close 357.20-357.20	High 357.20-357.20	Low 357.20-357.20
Palladium: Open 357.20-357.20	Close 357.20-357.20	High 357.20-357.20	Low 357.20-357.20
Platinum: Open 357.20-357.20	Close 357.20-357.20	High 357.20-357.20	Low 357.20-357.20

OTHER STERLING RATES DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Australian dollar	1.0910-1.0920	Australia	1.0910-1.0920
Belgian franc	2.1400-2.1510	Belgium	2.1400-2.1510
Brazilian cruzeiro	0.0000-0.0000	Brazil	0.0000-0.0000
Canadian dollar	0.6240-0.6240	Canada	1.1443-1.1448
Deutsche mark	0.7900-0.7900	Denmark	0.8900-0.8900
French franc	7.1100-7.1100	France	0.8900-0.8900
Guinean franc	322.10-322.30	Germany	1.7300-1.7310
Hong Kong dollar	15.1000-15.1000	Hong Kong	1.7300-1.7310
Indian rupee	45.30-45.70	India	1.7300-1.7310
Irish pound	0.6970-0.6970	Ireland	1.7300-1.7310
Italian lira	0.0040-0.0040	Italy	1.7300-1.7310
New Zealand dollar	0.6970-0.6970	Netherlands	1.7300-1.7310
Portuguese escudo	2.0000-2.0000	Portugal	1.7300-1.7310
Singapore dollar	0.6970-0.6970	Singapore	1.7300-1.7310
Sri Lanka rand			
Taiwan dollar	0.0040-0.0040	Taiwan	1.7300-1.7310
U.A.E. dirham	0.1200-0.1200	U.A.E.	1.7300-1.7310
Yugoslav dinar	0.0040-0.0040	Yugoslavia	1.7300-1.7310

ECGB: Fixed Fund Sterling Export Finance, Maturity date: July 31, 1991 Agreed rates: Aug 26, 1991 to Sept 24, 1991 Scheme 1: 12.51%. Schemes 2 & 3: 12.36%. Reference rate: June 26, 1991 to July 31, 1991 Scheme 4 & 5: 11.126%.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Contract	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume
FT-SE 100	2850.0	2870.0	2830.0	2860.0	11,957
3 Month Sterling	92.25	92.50	92.00	92.35	5,857
3 Month Eurodollar	92.25	92.50	92.00	92.35	5,857
3 Month Eurodollar	92.25	92.50	92.00	92.35	5,857
3 Month Eurodollar	92.25	92.50	92.00	92.35	5,857
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3 Month Eurodollar	92.25	92.50	92.00	92.35	5,857
3 Month Eurodollar					

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**Lightning reaction: Ronald Faux turned heads with his RSA**

In a Berlin border watch-tower converted into a cafe a German motorcycle enthusiast recalled an Ariel Red Hunter he had once owned. After breaking a spark plug he had limped home by sticking an apple on to the remains and the high tension lead into the side of the apple; classic bike ingenuity on a grand scale. The apple was, of course, a Granny Schmidt.

<p>Sparcs from 1920s. Large stock of pistons, rings, valves, Lucas spares etc. SAE with enquiries please</p> <p><b>32 THE GREEN, THICKHEAD HILL, HINDLESEY, LANC.</b> Tel: 091-684 2163</p>	<p>Tel: 0993 717800</p> <p><b>1943 TRIUMPH Thunderbird</b>  <b>Rebuilt 1950-51</b>  <i>British Bikes Alloys Ward</i>          Repairs • Restoration  <i>British bikes bought/sold</i></p>	<p>cables, loom, exhausts, plus more, taxed and tested.</p> <p><b>£2,100 ono.</b>  <b>0635 578377</b></p>	<p><b>11.00 am to 5.00 pm</b>          Special Clearance Sale. Great 7 miles from 100 junction 55 all motorway          approx 1000 cars          Entry by prepayment. Adults £1.50          DAPS 1st Accredited Dealers Fun  <b>ENQ: 0291 420181</b></p>
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# Party complete as Soviet Union go in search of gold

From DAVID POWELL  
ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT  
TOKYO

THE Soviet Union team arrived here yesterday just in time to join the party. The third world championships begin tomorrow and, after the troubles back home, this should be an occasion to lift the spirits.

Their presence was welcomed because, without them, too many medals would have been won on the cheap. But now all the superpowers of the sport are here and there will not be much gold left for the other 160 nations after the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain, Germany and Kenya have run their metal detectors over the floor of the national stadium.

These will be the first global championships since athletics tackled its drugs disease after the 1988 Olympic Games in Seoul. Standards have fallen since testing was tightened, but now there is more public confidence that you get what you see.

Old reputations will be striving to keep ahead of new ones. In the 100 metres, Carl Lewis will be fighting for the past, Leroy Burrell for the future; in the 1,500 metres, Steve Cram will be in yesterday's colours, Noureddine Morceli in tomorrow's. One Johnson out, another one in. Ben Johnson is not good enough any more for the 100 metres; and no one should be good enough for Michael Johnson in the 200 metres.

But nothing, not even age, can catch Merlene Ottey. At 31 years and three months she stands, to be the oldest winner of a world or Olympic 100 metres title. The 200 metres, next Friday, is her safety net. Defeat for Ottey in the 200 metres would be the greatest upset imaginable, unless Sergey Bubka lost the pole vault or Jackie Joyner-Kersey the heptathlon.

If there is an event to rival for status the 100 or 1,500 metres, it is the marathon. This is the land where marathon runners are heroes. Pick one of three: Douglas Wakihuri, a Kenyan who studied the art in Japan and became, unexpectedly, world cham-



pion four years ago. Or Gelindo Bordin, the Italian stallion they call him, I think because he holds Olympic and European titles.

Or Steve Monaghan, the Australian who would probably make the final against Peter Elliott in an Always Be Polite and Friendly game show. Since game shows are even bigger than marathons here, why are we waiting? Or was Elliott's performance yesterday in putting on a brave face over his withdrawal considered unbeatable? But back to Monaghan. He has been breaking course records which Rob de Castella set prior to two of his greatest marathons.

And what of the British? "Our best number of medals at these championships to date is seven - in 1983 and 1987 - and I believe we can get into double figures," Frank Dick, Britain's director of coaching, said. Remarkably, after the fuss that was made last year about women's athletics in Britain being the poor relation, it is possible that the distasteful side will win more gold medals than their male counterparts.

Just as they did in 1987 in fact. Fatima Whitbread's javelin victory then is the only global championship win by a Briton, man or woman, since 1984. Where will they come from now? If they are to come, then most likely from Sally Gunnell, in the 400 metres hurdles, Yvonne Murray in the 3,000 metres, Liz McColgan in the 10,000 metres, and Steve Backley in the javelin.

Gunnell has reached the pinnacle of 400-metre hurdling by a winding path. Her first significant victory, in the English schools championships of 1977, was in the long jump; her first international championship, the European juniors of 1983, was as a heptathlete - "I cried all the way through because I was not doing very well"; her first senior national record was as a 100-metre hurdler. Tears of joy next? "I have trained all

winter thinking of gold and it's nice that I am up there with a chance," Gunnell said.

John Regis, in the 200 metres, Roger Black, in the 400 metres, and Tom McKean, in the 800 metres, should win medals, and gold is within reach. In three events, Britain could conceivably win two medals: Colin Jackson and Tony Jarrett in the high hurdles; Backley and Mick Hill in the javelin; McColgan and Jill Hunter in the 10,000 metres.

For a medal or two you might not expect, look to the men's 5,000 and 10,000 metres. Rob Denmark won a world indoor bronze last March and has switched from 1,500 metres to 5,000 this season with great success. His chances, as well as those of Gary Staines, may depend on whether Khalid Sika, of Morocco, and Salvatore Antibo, of Italy, have anything left after what is certain to be a titanic 10,000 metres between them.

"Sika's sprint is over-rated," Eamonn Martin, Britain's most successful present-day 10,000 metres runner, said. "My problem is the first 24 laps." Martin recognises that if Sika and Antibo play the attack and counter-attack games they played in their epic Oslo race last month, they will be hard to match. But he has enjoyed his best-ever winter and, if in contact at the bell, could cause an upset.

There are rich and poor in the team. You can guess who the rich are. Tony Brannen and Dave Buzza are the poor. Trying to become the second British decathlete over 6,000 points, on today's scoring tables, is an expensive business. "It costs me £5,000 a year and I've got a big overdraft," Brannen said.

And Buzza? "I am down to nothing, so I will be on the dole when I get home," he said. The British selectors made an expensive mistake, from Buzza's perspective, in not picking him for the World Cup, which was held in conjunction with the London Marathon last April. Buzza ran anyway and beat the third British scorer. The official third counter took a £10,000 share of the winning team's prize-money.



Burrell has been through the same factory as Lewis, with improvements

## Fast of foot, quicker of lip

LEROY Burrell trod yesterday in the way you would not expect of the world record-holder for the 100 metres: carefully, with skill not force (David Powell writes). So carefully, in fact, that it was as though he was wearing a brand-new pair of the spikes he was promoting and did not want to get them dirty.

When his event opens the track programme in the world championships here tomorrow, Burrell will be wearing the apparently revolutionary footwear. If he runs as well as he talked to a packed house of journalists, he will win for sure.

He took questions on the shoes, Linford Christie, Carl Lewis, the Santa Monica Track Club, of which he is a member, and his coach, Tom Teller. His fielding was as tidy as Graham Gooch's. Burrell has been through the same factory as

Lewis - same university, subject, track club, coach, event and religion - but is becoming a new, improved product.

He took the one about the shoes with aplomb. "The secret which helped Leroy Burrell achieve his 9.90sec world record," the promotional video said, adding that single spikes meant a 20 per cent loss in power compared with the manufacturer's three-spikes clusters.

So he is not the fastest athlete, he simply has the fastest shoes? "It's hard to quantify how much faster the shoes have made me," Burrell said. World's fastest man reputation intact. "There has definitely been a positive effect on the way I feel on the track in the shoes." Shoe sponsors or satisfied.

How was there room for two egos - his and Lewis's - in one

club? "Santa Monica egos are not necessarily as big as you perceive them. When you join the Santa Monica Track Club, you leave your ego at the door." Would Christie be a danger this weekend? "He is going to do his best and I am going to do my best." Diplomacy. "But my best may be a little bit better than his."

"I do hold the world record and that is significant." Facts to ensure that diplomacy is not seen as dodging the question.

Had Santa Monica's squabbling been a problem, Burrell meant he was running more for himself and his club? "I am representing the United States." He could have stopped there, but his enthusiasm transcends grudges. "I am going to be cheering my team-mates. I am on the team through thick and thin, bad uniforms and everything." Humour, too.

## Furious pace raises doubts for the future

"KEEP fighting, keep competing, keep sweating, is, I fear, the theme of part of tonight's opening ceremony of the third world championships. Unappealing to socialists, British educationalists, I dare say, but perhaps explanatory of Japan's worldwide industrial success. It is a fitting too, for what promises to be one of the most spectacular athletics events in history."

I cannot recall even an Olympic Games in which at least eight of the men's track events and five of the women's have carried more and characters. Yet two overriding questions hover: will it be honest; and how long can it last in the future, as athletes are loaded with ever more competition and financial incentives.

Conjure with the names: Burrell and Lewis, Michael Johnson, Morceli and Aouita, Ondieki and Chelimo. The Seoul Olympics were the games of the African middle-distance runners; these could be the championships of the phenomenal hill runners of the Kibisi and Nandi tribes from Kenya's Rift Valley. On every one of the eight days, there will be a harvest of talent, tension and sporting anxiety.

Yet is there a Ben Johnson, a Butch Reynolds or a Marti Vainio out there among them? These names haunt every hero of today.

Leroy Burrell, the new 100 metres world record-holder, said yesterday that any positive drug test should result in a life ban. His dual in Sunday's 100 metres with Carl Lewis is little short in flavour from Lewis v Johnson in Rome and Seoul, but his opinion goes beyond the four-year ban for positive tests introduced by the IAAF.

"They [the IAAFs] should set a hard standard," Burrell said. "One person in Seoul almost destroyed the sport." Too true. Perhaps now, as the sport is beginning to intimidate the cheats, just Antonio Semerari said yesterday that the IOC will have to consider, at its session in Alpbach, Austria, coming into line with the IAAF, and excluding any offender from the subsequent Olympic Games.

Burrell also expressed approval of the introduction of an additional world championship. With the Pan American Games, it would be significant for Americans, he argued, that the European championships, Americans would welcome the extra competition, another chance

to be world champions. Yet is athletics moving into the same syndrome as football, dominated by dilation, as Yvonne Murray has suggested? An unending stream of hitherto unknown Kenyan runners may continue to descend from 6,000 feet, but for how long under increasing stress of competition, can they avoid the kind of injury which yesterday again overtook Peter Elliott?

The more competition, the shorter the life of the athlete. Before long, the argument will be that championships are needed every year if a top performer, especially in the distance events, is to have the chance when fit. Look at the injured non-medal winners in the 1,500 metres, which should have been one of the great races of all time: Bile, the world champion, Aouita, the world record-holder, and Cram, the mile record-holder, who Elliott took the silver on painkillers.

The \$47 million increased income that the IAAF will gain from an added world championship - even four years - is a partially self-defeating. An inevitable consequence is that the truly great runner, at every distance from 400 upwards - the argument by which Frank Dick, the chief British coach, is against the additional championships - will have to choose their championship no more than two of the Olympics and two world championships, with the continental (European) event becoming a world cup.

A further consequence of this, before the end of the century, is that the IAAF will be obliged to pay prize-money as an incentive to persuade the best performers to take part. There is no handing out medals which athletes will now caped.

And what about the halved Olympic Games? "I see no immediate possibility of prize-money," Semerari said yesterday. "But I cannot predict the situation in 20 years' time."

We are about to witness in Tokyo is an extravaganza heightened by the mountainous applications which an army of international performers now devote to the sport eight months before the start of the season, far less better, six under 13min 12sec for 5,000, three under 48.0sec for 400 hurdles. Tokyo is responding with full houses in advance.

### STATISTICS AND FORM GUIDE - MEN'S EVENTS

**100 METRES**  
World rec: 9.58sec, L Burrell (US), 1991. British rec: 9.97, L Christie, 1988. 1987 world champs: S Johnson (US), 1988. 1989 Olympic: C Lewis (US), 9.92. 1990 European: C Lewis (US), 9.92 (wind-assisted - w).

**1991 form**  
9.90 Leroy Burrell (US)  
9.93 Carl Lewis (US)  
9.94 Leroy Burrell (US)  
9.95 Leroy Burrell (US)  
9.96 Leroy Burrell (US)  
9.97 Leroy Burrell (US)  
9.98 Leroy Burrell (US)  
9.99 Leroy Burrell (US)

**200 METRES**  
World rec: 19.72sec, P Manning (RI), 1978. British rec: 20.09, L Christie, 1988. 1987 world champs: C Smith (US), 1989. 1988 Olympic: C Smith (US), 1989. 1989 Olympic: C Smith (US), 1989. 1990 European: C Smith (US), 1989. 1990 European: C Smith (US), 1989.

**1991 form**  
20.02 Michael Johnson (US)  
20.03 Michael Johnson (US)  
20.04 Michael Johnson (US)  
20.05 Michael Johnson (US)  
20.06 Michael Johnson (US)  
20.07 Michael Johnson (US)  
20.08 Michael Johnson (US)  
20.09 Michael Johnson (US)

**400 METRES**  
World rec: 43.26sec, H Hinkley (US), 1988. British rec: 44.50, D Redmond, 1987. 1987 world champs: T Schuster (EG), 44.53. 1988 Olympic: S Lewis (US), 43.87. 1990 European: R Black (US), 45.08.

**1991 form**  
44.36 Antonio Pettigrew (US)  
44.40 Roberto Hernandez (Cuba)  
44.41 Roberto Hernandez (Cuba)  
44.42 Roberto Hernandez (Cuba)  
44.43 Roberto Hernandez (Cuba)  
44.44 Roberto Hernandez (Cuba)  
44.45 Roberto Hernandez (Cuba)  
44.46 Roberto Hernandez (Cuba)

**800 METRES**  
World rec: 1min 41.73sec, S Cow (GB), 1981. 1987 world champs: B Kerschbaum (AUS), 1:43.06. 1988 Olympic: P Enay (KEN), 1:43.45. 1990 European: P Enay (KEN), 1:44.76.

**1991 form**  
1:43.75 John Lewis (GB)  
1:43.84 John Lewis (GB)  
1:43.93 John Lewis (GB)  
1:44.02 John Lewis (GB)  
1:44.11 John Lewis (GB)  
1:44.20 John Lewis (GB)  
1:44.29 John Lewis (GB)  
1:44.38 John Lewis (GB)

**MARATHON**  
World best: 2hr 05min 56sec, B Derom (ETH), 1988. British best: 2:07.13, S Jones, 1985. 1987 world champs: H Gauder (GER), 2:11:46. 1988 Olympic: G Bordin (I), 2:10:02. 1990 European: B Bordin (I), 2:10:02.

**1991 form**  
2:08.53 Koichi Morishita (JPN)  
2:08.54 Koichi Morishita (JPN)  
2:08.55 Koichi Morishita (JPN)  
2:08.56 Koichi Morishita (JPN)  
2:08.57 Koichi Morishita (JPN)  
2:08.58 Koichi Morishita (JPN)  
2:08.59 Koichi Morishita (JPN)  
2:08.60 Koichi Morishita (JPN)

**50 KILOMETRE WALK**  
World rec: 3hr 37min 41sec, A Pavlov (URS), 1988. British rec: 3:51:37, J Macdonald, 1987. 1987 world champs: H Gauder (GER), 3:40:53. 1988 Olympic: V Kamenov (BUL), 3:38:29. 1990 European: V Kamenov (BUL), 3:38:29.

**1991 form**  
3:42:03 Carlos Monzon (JPN)  
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3:42:06 Carlos Monzon (JPN)  
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**1991 form**  
9.90 Leroy Burrell (US)  
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9.94 Leroy Burrell (US)  
9.95 Leroy Burrell (US)  
9.96 Leroy Burrell (US)  
9.97 Leroy Burrell (US)  
9.98 Leroy Burrell (US)  
9.99 Leroy Burrell (US)

**1,500 METRES**  
World rec: 3min 56.56sec, S Aouita (MAR), 1989. British rec: 3:58.67, S Cram, 1988. 1987 world champs: S Johnson (US), 1988. 1989 Olympic: C Lewis (US), 3:56.51. 1990 European: C Lewis (US), 3:56.51.

**1991 form**  
3:51.00 Noureddine Morceli (ALG)  
3:51.01 Noureddine Morceli (ALG)  
3:51.02 Noureddine Morceli (ALG)  
3:51.03 Noureddine Morceli (ALG)  
3:51.04 Noureddine Morceli (ALG)  
3:51.05 Noureddine Morceli (ALG)  
3:51.06 Noureddine Morceli (ALG)  
3:51.07 Noureddine Morceli (ALG)

**5,000 METRES**  
World rec: 12min 58.36sec, S Aouita (MAR), 1989. British rec: 13:00.41, D Redmond, 1987. 1987 world champs: S Johnson (US), 1988. 1989 Olympic: C Lewis (US), 12:58.36. 1990 European: C Lewis (US), 12:58.36.

**1991 form**  
13:01.82 Yobes Ondieki (KEN)  
13:01.83 Yobes Ondieki (KEN)  
13:01.84 Yobes Ondieki (KEN)  
13:01.85 Yobes Ondieki (KEN)  
13:01.86 Yobes Ondieki (KEN)  
13:01.87 Yobes Ondieki (KEN)  
13:01.88 Yobes Ondieki (KEN)  
13:01.89 Yobes Ondieki (KEN)

**10,000 METRES**  
World rec: 27min 08.23sec, A Pavlov (URS), 1988. British rec: 27:22.05, E Martin, 1987. 1987 world champs: S Johnson (US), 1988. 1989 Olympic: C Lewis (US), 27:08.23. 1990 European: C Lewis (US), 27:08.23.

**1991 form**  
27:11.18 Richard Chelimo (KEN)  
27:11.19 Richard Chelimo (KEN)  
27:11.20 Richard Chelimo (KEN)  
27:11.21 Richard Chelimo (KEN)  
27:11.22 Richard Chelimo (KEN)  
27:11.23 Richard Chelimo (KEN)  
27:11.24 Richard Chelimo (KEN)  
27:11.25 Richard Chelimo (KEN)

**20 KILOMETRE WALK**  
World rec: 3hr 37min 41sec, A Pavlov (URS), 1988. British rec: 3:51:37, J Macdonald, 1987. 1987 world champs: H Gauder (GER), 3:40:53. 1988 Olympic: V Kamenov (BUL), 3:38:29. 1990 European: V Kamenov (BUL), 3:38:29.

**1991 form**  
3:42:03 Carlos Monzon (JPN)  
3:42:04 Carlos Monzon (JPN)  
3:42:05 Carlos Monzon (JPN)  
3:42:06 Carlos Monzon (JPN)  
3:42:07 Carlos Monzon (JPN)  
3:42:08 Carlos Monzon (JPN)  
3:42:09 Carlos Monzon (JPN)  
3:42:10 Carlos Monzon (JPN)

**50 KILOMETRE WALK**  
World rec: 3hr 37min 41sec, A Pavlov (URS), 1988. British rec: 3:51:37, J Macdonald, 1987. 1987 world champs: H Gauder (GER), 3:40:53. 1988 Olympic: V Kamenov (BUL), 3:38:29. 1990 European: V Kamenov (BUL), 3:38:29.

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3:42:08 Carlos Monzon (JPN)  
3:42:09 Carlos Monzon (JPN)  
3:42:10 Carlos Monzon (JPN)

**100 METRES**  
World rec: 9.58sec, L Burrell (US), 1991. British rec: 9.97, L Christie, 1988. 1987 world champs: S Johnson (US), 1988. 1989 Olympic: C Lewis (US), 9.92. 1990 European: C Lewis (US), 9.92 (wind-assisted - w).

**1991 form**  
9.90 Leroy Burrell (US)  
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9.94 Leroy Burrell (US)  
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9.96 Leroy Burrell (US)  
9.97 Leroy Burrell (US)  
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9.96 Leroy Burrell (US)  
9.97 Leroy Burrell (US)  
9.98 Leroy Burrell (US)  
9.99 Leroy Burrell (US)

**3,000M STEEPCHASE**  
World rec: 8min 05.56sec, P Kerschbaum (AUS), 1988. British rec: 8:07.98, J Macdonald, 1987. 1987 world champs: S Johnson (US), 1988. 1989 Olympic: C Lewis (US), 8:05.51. 1990 European: C Lewis (US), 8:05.51.

**1991 form**  
8:07.98 J Macdonald (AUS)  
8:07.99 J Macdonald (AUS)  
8:08.00 J Macdonald (AUS)  
8:08.01 J Macdonald (AUS)  
8:08.02 J Macdonald (AUS)  
8:08.03 J Macdonald (AUS)  
8:08.04 J Macdonald (AUS)  
8:08.05 J Macdonald (AUS)

**110 METRES HURDLES**  
World rec: 12.28sec, R Johnson (US), 1990. British rec: 13.08, C Jackson, 1989. 1987 world champs: S Johnson (US), 1988. 1989 Olympic: C Lewis (US), 12:28. 1990 European: C Lewis (US), 12:28.

**1991 form**  
12.28 R Johnson (US)  
12.29 R Johnson (US)  
12.30 R Johnson (US)  
12.31 R Johnson (US)  
12.32 R Johnson (US)  
12.33 R Johnson (US)  
12.34 R Johnson (US)  
12.35 R Johnson (US)

**400 METRES HURDLES**  
World rec: 47.02sec, E Moses (US), 1989. British rec: 47.32, K Anderson, 1987. 1987 world champs: S Johnson (US), 1988. 1989 Olympic: C Lewis (US), 47:02. 1990 European: C Lewis (US), 47:02.

**1991 form**  
47.02 E Moses (US)  
47.03 E Moses (US)  
47.04 E Moses (US)  
47.05 E Moses (US)  
47.06 E Moses (US)  
47.07 E Moses (US)  
47.08 E Moses (US)  
47.09 E Moses (US)

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World rec: 1min 41.73sec, S Cow (GB), 1981. 1987 world champs: B Kerschbaum (AUS), 1:43.06. 1988 Olympic: P Enay (KEN), 1:43.45. 1990 European: P Enay (KEN), 1:44.76.

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**50 KILOMETRE WALK**  
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**100 METRES**  
World rec: 9.58sec, L Burrell (US), 1991. British rec: 9.97, L Christie, 1988. 1987 world champs: S Johnson (US), 1988. 1989 Olympic: C Lewis (US), 9.92. 1990 European: C Lewis (US), 9.92 (wind-assisted - w).

**1991 form**  
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9.94 Leroy Burrell (US)  
9.95 Leroy Burrell (US)  
9.96 Leroy Burrell (US)  
9.97 Leroy Burrell (US)  
9.98 Leroy Burrell (US)  
9.99 Leroy Burrell (US)

**4 x 100 METRES RELAY**  
World rec: 3:07.57sec, United States (M. Merrill, L. Burrell, D. Mitchell, C. Lewis), 1990. British rec: 3:18.00, S Johnson, 1987. 1987 world champs: S Johnson (US), 1988. 1989 Olympic: C Lewis (US), 3:07.57. 1990 European: C Lewis (US), 3:07.57.

**1991 form**  
3:07.57 United States (M. Merrill, L. Burrell, D. Mitchell, C. Lewis)  
3:07.58 United States (M. Merrill, L. Burrell, D. Mitchell, C. Lewis)  
3:07.59 United States (M. Merrill, L. Burrell, D. Mitchell, C. Lewis)  
3:07.60 United States (M. Merrill, L. Burrell, D. Mitchell, C. Lewis)

**4 x 400 METRES RELAY**  
World rec: 3min 56.56sec, United States (S. Aouita, R. Johnson, S. Cram, S. Johnson), 1988. British rec: 4:00.00, S Johnson, 1987. 1987 world champs: S Johnson (US), 1988. 1989 Olympic: C Lewis (US), 3:56.51. 1990 European: C Lewis (US), 3:56.51.

**1991 form**  
3:56.51 United States (S. Aouita, R. Johnson, S. Cram, S. Johnson)  
3:56.52 United States (S. Aouita, R. Johnson, S. Cram, S. Johnson)  
3:56.53 United States (S. Aouita, R. Johnson, S. Cram, S. Johnson)  
3:56.54 United States (S. Aouita, R. Johnson, S. Cram, S. Johnson)

**110 METRES HURDLES**  
World rec: 12.28sec, R Johnson (US), 1990. British rec: 13.08, C Jackson, 1989. 1987 world champs: S Johnson (US), 1988. 1989 Olympic: C Lewis (US), 12:28. 1990 European: C Lewis (US), 12:28.



# Musicale to extend unbeaten record with Prestige win

MUSICALE is napped to retain her unbeaten record in the Prestige Stakes at Goodwood today.

She has to concede 5lb to her rivals because of her place in the group three Cherry Hinton Stakes at Newmarket last month, but there is every reason to suppose that she still has scope for improvement.

Also, that Newmarket victory, staying on strongly to beat Coffee Ice by a head, was over six furlongs, a trip which might well be short of her best.

Her pedigree, she is by the Minsirel, suggests that this seven furlongs will suit her even better.

While Musicale has the group race form to her credit, the Dick Hern-trained mares' claim is based on the promise of her emphatic win in a six-furlong maiden last month.

Her pedigree, by the Derby winner Ship Anchor out of a Nijinsky mare, also has plenty of stamina about it and, like Musicale, she looks a good filly in the making.

However, she is taking a hefty step up in class and might find that the more experienced Musicale knows just too much for her at this point in their respective careers.

Paradise Way has also won her only start, beating four other newcomers at Ascot in June. The third, Rose Of Fire, went on to win a minor race but was then well beaten in a Folkestone nursery. I feel there is a doubt over the value of that Ascot form, and Paradise Way appeals less than the two principals.

Whatever Musicale's fate, here can be on the mark with Gracious Beauty in the West Dean Maiden Stakes. She is becoming a cautious tale of the bloodstock business, a \$1.6 million buy seeking a \$2,000-odd first prize at her fourth attempt, but a win would increase her value as a broodmare.

This looks her best chance, too, as she drops in class from a sixth in a more competitive maiden at Windsor last time. The betting market will be the best guide to the interesting newcomers, Consighere and Di Stefano, but this should be Gracious Beauty's day.

Ski Capella was from Frimley Park at Kempton Park last month was a good effort and with the accomplished Richard Perham on board can take the Oakley

Stakes. The closing Blue Peter Stakes brings together the promising two-year-olds Lead The Dance and Basma, with Basma winning a narrow vote.

She created a highly favourable impression when making a successful first appearance at Goodwood earlier this month and looks sure to benefit from that run.

Blinkered first time

GOODWOOD: 4.50 House Staff, Devonshire.

Apprentices' Handicap, while course and distance winner: Usa Dollar, inconsistent but smart on his day, is a sporting selection to run well at an attractive price in the Schröder Investment Management Handicap.

The reappearance of Mujadil, a speedy juvenile last season, is a talking point in the Hopeful Stakes at Newmarket but, with his stable still seeking its best form, a watching brief may be the safest option.

Preference is for Gentle Here, who is looking to make the transition from handicap company. Although this is better opposition than he has been used to lately, he is in cracking form, having landed a valuable sprint at Ayr last time, and is expected to give a good account of himself.

Morganway is difficult to oppose in the Reflex and Compag Computer Handicap. She was an easy winner of what looked a tricky handicap at Newbury last weekend, and provided the move back to six furlongs from seven is not too great a problem, she should give John Williams another winner in a rewarding season for him.

The closing Blue Peter Stakes brings together the promising two-year-olds Lead The Dance and Basma, with Basma winning a narrow vote. She created a highly favourable impression when making a successful first appearance at Goodwood earlier this month and looks sure to benefit from that run.

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## Daja justifies gamble in Yarmouth maiden

DAJA, one of four runners owned by Sheikh Hamdan Al-Maktoum, the Wellington-based owner, landed a gamble from 6-1 to 7-2.

Jimmy Fortune sent the Donab colt, trained by Alex Scott, to the front a furlong from home and he quickly asserted his authority to beat Wild Fire by four lengths.

Sheikh Hamdan added a second success when Mujadil landed the J Medley Handicap beating Namsa, the second ownership, by one-and-a-half lengths. Richard Hills, Mujadil's rider, completed a double of his own with Kikam in the John Beckett Claiming Stakes.

"Kikam was placed in a handicap last week but this is her mark," Lord John FitzGerald, the winning trainer, said. The long-term objective is to race Kikam in Spain.

Apprentice Francis Norton followed his Ebor Handicap triumph on Depoki by taking the Frimley Park Nursery on Primus, trained by Geoffrey Lister, and the Frimley Park home by one-and-a-half lengths from Well Appointed.

At the end of the day, the 100-1 shot Daja, who was sent to the front a furlong from home and he quickly asserted his authority to beat Wild Fire by four lengths.

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GOODWOOD: 4.50 House Staff, Devonshire.

## Pipe attempts clean sweep

MARTIN Pipe's attempt to secure another racing record at Devon today has the bookmakers running scared.

Pipe is attempting to become the first trainer to go through the card at a race meeting.

His chances are good with strongly-fancied runners in each race and two challengers in the two most competitive contests.

Four of the runners, Arabian Sultan, Refuse, Takemethere and The Blue Boy, look sure to start odds-on and Nordic Delight in the first race is also likely to be a short price.

The second attempt is most likely to fail in the last race where Ever Smile and Sweet N' should be successful, he would be emulating Sir Gordon Richards, the rider of all six winners at Chesham on October 4, 1933, and Alex Russell, who achieved the same feat at Hamilton on July 19, 1957.

The Wellington-trained Pipe has already achieved one notable sequence. Four years ago he sent out seven consecutive winners over two days at Newton Abbot and Devon.

Pipe has broken many records in a 17-year career. He became the first trainer (Jumps or Flat) to reach 200 in a season in 1989 and broke his own record of winners in a season when recording 230 last term.

Twenty face stiff opposition. Major bookmakers say they do not want to risk quoting a price on Pipe completing the clean sweep.

Graham Sharpe, spokesman for William Hill, said: "It's impossible to offer a realistic price. If the first five came up, we would have massive liabilities running out to the last race and it would be asking for trouble."

"However, we would be quite happy for punters to have a go at a starting price accumulator on the Pipe horses."

Champion jockey Peter Scudamore rides the most fancied Pipe runner in each race.

Should he be successful, he would be emulating Sir Gordon Richards, the rider of all six winners at Chesham on October 4, 1933, and Alex Russell, who achieved the same feat at Hamilton on July 19, 1957.

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Blinkered first time

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THUNDERER  
2.20 Maribou Lady. 2.50 Arabian Sultan. 3.20 Refuse. 3.50 Takemethere. 4.20 The Blue Boy. 4.50 Ever Smile.

GOING: HARD SIS

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Sri Lanka show their worth on first day at Lord's

## Defiant Stewart holds together England innings

By ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

LORD'S (first day of five, England won test): England have scored 229 for six wickets against Sri Lanka

IT IS just as well that the entire basis of Graham Gooch's leadership dictates that his England players should never become complacent in victory or complacent in defeat. Ten days ago they scored an unforgettable win over the strongest team in Test cricket. Yesterday, they were seriously embarrassed by the weakest.

Sri Lanka, widely believed incapable of bowling England out at all, might easily have managed it inside a day at Lord's, as this Cornhill Test began with a display so irresolute that those West Indians still in the country must have wondered if these were the same batsmen who so stoutly saved a series against them.

When rain finally swept across the ground shortly after 5pm, a recovery was under way and it was perhaps no coincidence that it was in the

hands of Alec Stewart and Jack Russell.

For most of those who had departed earlier, this was inevitable anti-climax after the torrid ordeals against Ambrose and company. But for Stewart, who came in only for the final West Indies Test in order to strengthen the batting, and for Russell, whose place he took, there were pressing points to prove.

Nothing, however, was proven so much as the folly of underestimating the Sri Lankans. Their bowling was well-directed and occasionally inspired, their catching competent if not flawless.

Gooch chose to bat, and to omit Pringle, after inspecting a pitch already sporting cracks. Sri Lanka were equally keen to bowl first but the turn evident for their one spin bowler indicates that England may at least have got one thing right.

The humid atmosphere did, however, make for good bowling conditions until lunchtime. In the first hour Gooch was beaten more often than in

any hour he battled against the West Indies. Confronted not by outright speed but by medium-paced swing and seam, his footwork was in-determinate and a more histrionic man than Ramesh Ratnayake would have been tearing out locks of hair from beneath his white headband.

The stocky Ratnayake might have had Morris leg-before, offering no stroke to a ball perilously close to off-stump, in his first over. In his second, he twice went past the outside edge of Gooch's bat and in his third he left him groping against an outswinger and then ducked the next ball back into him. Gooch, shouldering arms, looked fortunate to escape an lbw verdict.

Ratnayake beat him twice more before resting, whereupon the wicket he so much deserved fell abruptly to Ramanayake. Switched to the Pavilion End, he took a sharp return catch as Gooch drove at a ball of inappropriate length. It was not the captain's finest hour but his 38 still carried his Test aggregate for the summer above 500 runs.

England were becalmed after lunch, 10 runs coming in half-an-hour as the 10,000 crowd settled back in the sun-drenched pavilion when the bat would take control. The answer was wholly unexpected, the bowlers taking over so emphatically that three wickets fell in four overs for only six runs.

Morris, having struck Ratnayake majestically through cover on the up, was leg-before next ball. Smith was caught behind, trying to withdraw the bat far too late. Ratnayake had received due reward for his efforts.

Rampkrish, who hardly offered an indelicate stroke throughout five Tests against West Indies, needed only four balls to play one here and was well caught at second slip. If Stewart, on 24, had been held at long-leg by Wijesunwardene, who got both hands to the chance, England would have been 120 for five.

Instead, 40 runs were added with the helmetless Botham, who had just played a classical straight-drive and obviously got the taste for the bowling, when he aimed an ambitious hook at a short ball outside off-stump and top-edged to second slip, a waste of a promising innings.

The first ball of spin was delayed until 4.15pm and it turned enough for Lewis to edge to slip. Stewart, having enjoyed his luck, was now playing with impressive composure, and when the rain came he was, on 76, in sight of the first Test century he, or his father, will have made.

Scoreboards, page 34



Father's pride: Alec Stewart, son of the England manager, on his way to an unbeaten 76 at Lord's yesterday

## Essex panic costs victory

By JACK BAILEY

COLCHESTER (final day of three): Yorkshire (21pts) beat Essex (5) by three runs

ESSEX had this match and a place at the head of the Britannia Assurance county championship firmly in their grasp. With eight overs remaining, they had five wickets in hand and were only 22 runs from victory.

With four balls left and four runs needed, John Childs skied Carrick to mid-wicket and Yorkshire had brought off a remarkable win; although it has to be said that Essex, having got so far, gave them every assistance by losing their heads, flailing instead of pushing for victory.

Facing Moxon's finely balanced declaration which set them 319 runs from 67 overs, Essex twice chose the *hara-kiri* route.

The first time they withdrew from a charge which resembled that of the Light Brigade. By then, they had lost four wickets for 107. Seymour, Prichard and Hussain went full tilt into the Valley of Death. Even a brilliant, mercurial 56 from 44 balls by Malik held a feverish quality.

That they came so close owed much to John Stephenson who kept one end going

Wicket	Runs	Wickets	Runs	Wickets	Runs
1	8	4	7	52	54
2	18	7	5	6	57
3	17	8	4	7	36
4	17	6	8	36	50
5	17	5	3	9	47
6	17	5	3	9	47
7	17	5	3	9	47
8	17	5	3	9	47
9	17	5	3	9	47
10	17	5	3	9	47

Wicket	Runs	Wickets	Runs	Wickets	Runs
1	18	7	5	6	57
2	17	8	4	7	36
3	17	6	8	36	50
4	17	5	3	9	47
5	17	5	3	9	47
6	17	5	3	9	47
7	17	5	3	9	47
8	17	5	3	9	47
9	17	5	3	9	47
10	17	5	3	9	47

almost throughout, falling three short of his second century of the match and leaving the scene with Essex only 26 short.

Along the way, he had just the right backing from the middle order. Malik, was scintillating - but frenetic; Knight, coping admirably with the rough outside the left-handers' off-stump, was watchful and brisk while scoring his first half-century for Essex in just over an hour.

Finally there was Garnham, who came in at the fall of the fifth wicket, with 114 needed from 23 overs, and stayed to make 66 from 79 balls before, going for a second six from successive balls from Carrick, he holed out and exposed the Essex tail to a task for which

they were not equipped. One by one, the second bout of suicidal strikes began.

Irony of ironies, it was Essex's Andrew, fielding as substitute for one of two injured Yorkshire players, who took the catch in front of the pavilion which prevented Topley from finishing it all with a straight six off Baty.

Full marks to Yorkshire. Moxon's declaration was generous but it gave them the best possible chance of winning. Carrick and Baty, who bowled almost throughout, kept their heads under formidable fire. Their third run of the season was well earned and Moxon's stature as captain and player continues to grow.

In setting up his lunch-time declaration, Moxon himself played the major part. Discussion had just broken out regarding the possibility of his scoring a double century and a century in the same match, when he was neatly picked up by Topley off his own bowling. Moxon's 66 had been a more brutal innings than his one-paced 200, and just as valuable in its way.

Kellett and Robinson were admirable henchmen in Yorkshire's bid to score runs quickly. But neither they nor anyone else quite matched Moxon's brief mastery. Three

fours in one over from Stephenson and a vast six from the same bowler's next, were sheer piracy.

Yorkshire's spinners, Carrick and Baty, will have bowled better than they did in the last pulsating Essex innings. They paid a high price for bowling too many short balls to Stephenson. But they showed plenty of what used to be called Yorkshire grit - and that, combined with a lack of Essex nous, saw them home.

YORKSHIRE: First innings 447 for 9 (100 overs): D Moxon 200, S A Carrick 80, R J Topley 50. Second innings: 175 for 4 (100 overs): D Moxon 66, S A Carrick 80, R J Topley 50.

ESSEX: First innings 200 for 3 (100 overs): P J Prichard 100, J P Stephenson 118. Second innings: 175 for 4 (100 overs): D Moxon 66, S A Carrick 80, R J Topley 50.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-12 (23.1), 2-31 (30.2), 3-102 (41.0), 4-107 (41.1), 5-114 (41.2), 6-114 (41.3), 7-114 (41.4), 8-114 (41.5), 9-114 (41.6), 10-114 (41.7).

Umpires: R C Topley and R J Topley.

## Elliott is out of the running

From DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT, TOKYO

PETER Elliott, Britain's hope for a gold medal in the 1,500 metres, withdrew from the world championships here yesterday to protect a childhood ambition.

Elliott, aged 28 and at the peak of his powers, pulled out for two reasons, one of which was that he did not want to risk inflicting long-term damage to an inflamed Achilles tendon which might wreck his chances of an Olympic gold medal next year.

"I said in my first interview on television, when I was 12 years old, that my ambition was to be Olympic champion and that is why I am not prepared to take the risk," Elliott said yesterday.

Although the injury had presented itself a month ago, he had been able to train on it and only a fortnight ago, at the Zurich grand prix, Elliott spoke cheerfully and optimistically about his chances of winning here. It was only this week that he began to miss training.

He was advised yesterday that he might be able to take a chance on getting back into training next Tuesday. "One thing I don't want to do is rupture it," he said. Elliott has taken that sort of risk before, at the last Olympics, when he ran with a groin injury which required pain-killing injections. But he did not get his victory, finishing fourth in the 800 metres and second in the 1,500. "I took a risk at the Olympic Games because I feel more for them than I do for the world championships."

The other main pain supporting his withdrawal was that he felt that, even if he was ready to line up in the heats next Thursday, a week's lost training would reduce his chances.

Elliott flies home today in the hope his physiotherapist can help him salvage something from this season. There had been talk of him going for a world record after these championships and, if he can be back in training by the end of next week, he may still try.

Although Elliott's career has had its ups, the downs have dominated, culminating last year in his fall during the heats at the European championships. Although he was reinstated for the final, the bronchitis surrounding the case prevented him from running the final wholeheartedly.

Kevin McKay had been selected as reserve, but the British team management decided not to call him out. The selectors have decided it is too late to accommodate "Toby".

McKay's name, however, did not appear on the entry list, which raised the question of whether the management had forgotten to submit it. McKay said that he was prepared to come. "They ought to let me decide whether I can accommodate or not," McKay said.

Tokyo preview, page 32

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## Lyle posts Ryder Cup reminder

From MITCHELL PLATT, GOLF CORRESPONDENT, DÜSSELDORF

SANDY Lyle produced a round of 67 in the first round of the German Open here yesterday to provide ample evidence that he has not given up hope of regaining his Ryder Cup place.

The Scot gave Bernard Gallacher, the European captain, a reminder that he could still be worth a place in next month's match against the United States as he moved to within one shot of Chris Williams, the leader.

Although he did not have the best of luck on the slick greens, three-putting once and missing four other birdie chances from inside 12 feet, Lyle made a nonsense of his recent poor play in Europe by gathering six birdies.

Gallacher said on the eve of the tournament that Lyle would need to win to earn a place, but when he completes the team on Sunday night he might have to think again, even if Lyle does not win.

Lyle left the impression that he still believes Gallacher should turn to him to strengthen a team which, it would seem, will go to Kiawah Island for the match, which takes place from September 27

to 29, with four newcomers.

"You can't buy experience with all the money in the world," Lyle said. "It is going to depend on what kind of a mood Bernard is in, but I've kept a blank space in my diary!"

It was the kind of positive talk not heard from Lyle for some time, and it came after a performance in which he impressed his playing partner, Steven Richardson, one of Europe's newcomers.

"I had not played with Sandy before, but to come up with a 67 when he knows what he has to do was very impressive," Richardson said.

Lyle left his driver out of the bag to suppress his natural instinct to attack, reducing the risk of becoming entangled with the many trees which line the fairways. It also stopped

him from being drawn into a driving contest with the powerful Richardson.

It was another indication that Lyle has a game plan for this week. He suggested that it is a "mission impossible" as far as the Ryder Cup is concerned, although in the same breath he confidently predicted that another three 67s might do the trick.

Lyle's prospects will be increased if José María Olazábal retains ninth place in the Ryder Cup points list, because Gallacher would then be able to pick two players.

Sam Torrance opened with a 69 to enhance his claims as his closest rivals, Anders Forsbrand (72), Paul Broadhurst (73) and Per-Ulf Johansson (74), all totted in the oppressive conditions.

Meanwhile, Williams, who



Lyle: still hoping

holds a British passport, but has lived for the better part of his 32 years in South Africa, where he returns on Monday, thoroughly deserved to take the lead ahead of Andrew Murray, Vijay Singh, of Fiji, and Lyle. Williams had eight birdies, including a two at the 11th, where he holed his longest putt by coaxing the ball in from 30 feet.

Murray is looking forward to returning next week to Walton Heath, where he won the European Open in 1989, and he did not drop a shot in his 67, although he did save pars three times with putts ranging from four to eight feet.

Batcliffe's lead, page 35

## Villa sign Pole for defence

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

RON Atkinson's transfer activity at Aston Villa continued yesterday when Dariusz Kubicki, signed from Legia Warsaw for £200,000. It was Atkinson's ninth signing and his fifteenth since leaving Sheffield Wednesday two months ago.

Kubicki, a right-sided defender, arrived at Villa Park from Gdansk where he helped Poland beat Sweden 3-0 on Wednesday. Villa expect him to receive international clearance by Wednesday's first division fixture with West Ham United at Upton Park.

The bill for Atkinson's nine signings has reached £4.5 million, although he has £2.5 million from six sales.

A Football League tribunal in London ruled yesterday that Chelsea must pay Hartsfield United £200,000 for Joe Allen, who scored 35 goals for the third-division side last season.

The tribunal decided that Chelsea should pay £100,000, which is what they offered, plus £100,000 after Allen had made 25 appearances. Hartsfield had valued Allen, aged 24, at £1 million.

Graeme Hogg, the former

Manchester United defender, joined Heart of Midlothian yesterday in a £200,000 move from the second-division club. Portsmouth, Hogg joined Portsmouth three years ago for £130,000 and played more than 100 games for them.

Charlton Athletic may seek to play further matches at Upton Park as safety work at The Valley, due to start football again on September 14, is taking longer than envisaged.

Osvaldo Ardiles, the manager of Newcastle United, broke ranks yesterday with his chairman, George Forbes, who last weekend came out against a move by Sunderland to oppose the FA's Premier League.

"Of course Newcastle should be in the top league whether it is called the first division or the Premier League," Ardiles said, "but that does not mean that we should forget about the clubs in divisions two, three and four. We have a responsibility to our colleagues lower down the ladder."

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